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THE NEWSPAPER FOR CANTERBURY, WHITSTABLE, HERNE BAY AND SURROUNDING VILLAGES



Issue No 158
Available from Wednesday,
October 6, 2010

THE CLASSIC PANTOMIME ADVENTURE!

John Thomson

(Cold Feet, Coronation St)

Sid Sloane

(Sid from CBeebies)

Dave Lee

(Local Legend)



Robin Hood

Phil Holden - Ben Langley - Alan Mehdizadeh - Katie Birtill

3rd December 2010 - 16th January 2011

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Robin Hood at the Marlowe Theatre Arena

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Brand new auditorium for Marlowe Arena's audience

EXCITING plans are already under way to bring audiences a fantastic festive treat this Christmas. Top comedy actor John Thomson and CBeebies presenter Sid Sloane will be joining local funnyman Dave Lee in the spectacular family pantomime Robin Hood.

The biggest panto in Kent will be taking place in a brand new version of the Marlowe Theatre Arena, which is still situated in the centre of Canterbury at Kingsmead.

Robin Hood organisers have changed the seating by bringing the stage right out into the audience.

The new layout has far more 'raked' seating than last year and surrounds the stage on three sides, so the entire audience will have an excellent view of this stunning new production.

Producer Emily Wood said: "We listened to the feedback from last year's show and we are absolutely thrilled with the new seating. The audience will be much closer to the stage and they will really feel part of the fun and action."

Director Paul Hendy said: "It's a traditional swashbuckling, action-packed pantomime with lots of comedy and romance. There really is something for everyone."

John will play the evil Sheriff of Nottingham, while Sid is the eponymous hero in green tights.

Robin Hood is at the Marlowe Theatre Arena from Friday, December 3, to Sunday, January 16.

For further details and to book tickets, phone the Marlowe box office on 01227 787787, call in to the Visitor Information Centre in Sun Street, Canterbury, or go to www.newmarlowetheatre.org.uk. Go to www.marlowe-robinhood.co.uk to see a detailed plan of the auditorium.

ENTERTAINERS: This year's cast are promising a panto you won't forget in a hurry



Sheriff John's finally found his perfect role

COMEDY actor John Thomson is thrilled to be playing the iconic character The Sheriff of Nottingham. He landed the role thanks to his good friend Joe Pasquale, who told John about the Marlowe's reputation for producing some of the best pantomimes in the country.

He is bewildered as to why he hasn't done more panto, saying: "I've got acting and stand-up experience and I tread the line between mainstream and stand-up. I'm also an impersonator."

"I sing a bit and I'm a jack of all trades. I'm made for panto because I have the stand-up, so I know how to work the audience."

"I'm done some theatre, not a massive amount, but enough to know about it. The combination seems perfect for panto, but it never crossed my mind."

His face is instantly recognisable from TV shows like Cold Feet and Coronation Street, but there's more, so much more, to John Thomson's repertoire.

The 41-year-old Mancunian's career spans more than two decades but started while he was still at college voicing the puppets on the satirical show Spitting Image.

After winning the Perrier Award in 1992 with Steve Coogan at the Edinburgh Festival, he went on to work and write with Steve in the Paul Calf Video Diaries: Three Fights, Two Weddings And A Funeral (Bafta winner) and Coogan's Run.

He later played the memorable Joe Beasley and Cheeky Monkey in Knowing Me, Knowing You and pub landlord Ken in Men Behaving Badly. Sticking with his comedy roots, John appeared as a multitude of characters on BBC2's The Fast Show.

Other TV credits include The Smell Of Reeves And Mortimer, The World Of Lee Evans, Murder In Mind, New Street Law and Kingdom.

However, he is probably best remembered for his portrayal of Pete Gifford in the multi-award-winning Cold Feet, for which he was nominated for Best Actor at the Comedy Awards.

Film credits include The English Patient, The Man Who Knew Too Little (with Bill Murray), 24 Hour Party People (reuniting him with Steve Coogan) and The Young Poisoner's Handbook.

Most recently, John could be seen in the new BBC comedy Big Top and on ITV as Jesse Chadwick in Coronation Street.

Last month he appeared in the BBC4 'origins' drama Florizel Street.

John, who is married with two daughters, has also appeared on stage in several productions, including pantomime once before.



PERFECT COMBINATION: John Thomson plays this year's panto villain as the Sheriff of Nottingham

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Picture ADY KERRY

SHEEP ENJOY FREEDOM

The sight of sheep on the high street bemused citizens when the Dean of Canterbury exercised his ancient right to drive the animals through the city.
The freeman had difficulty shepherding his Romney Marsh flock on Sunday, when they bounded into the cathedral precincts, ignored keep off the grass signs, and escaped into the King's School.
For more pictures turn to page 2.

EXCLUSIVE

BY JENNY ARMSTRONG

HUNDREDS of potholes are still blighting the district's roads as Kent County Council has crashed its own road repair deadline.

The county council, which is responsible for highways, had a self-imposed end of September deadline for fixing all the holes caused by the harsh winter. But many still remain and some previously repaired holes are opening up again.

A spokesman for Kent County Council said: "When repairs were carried out at the beginning of the year, while conditions were still poor and the weather was still freezing at night, some repairs were temporary because the material is still likely to break under those circumstances."

"If there is a safety issue, like a big hole on a busy A-road, it may need a temporary repair so it doesn't cause any accidents or damage to vehicles."

Particularly bad roads include St Lawrence Road with a two foot long, five inch deep hole which was temporarily repaired but is now opening up again, and St Peter's Place near the West Gate which is plagued by eight-foot long cracks.

Kent County Council launched a £6.5 million pothole blitz after the winter which they called 'find and fix'.

Kim Hills, head of community operations for Kent Highway Services, said: "Our pothole

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



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Get up close to ancestors of Christ in glass

■ BY JENNY ARMSTRONG

STAINED glass windows more than 800 years old can now be seen close up for the first time.

The artworks, which depict the ancestors of Christ and have been adorning Canterbury Cathedral since they were made, are some of the most important examples of medieval stained glass in the world.

Leonie Seliger, head of the cathedral's stained glass conservation studio, said: "The windows start at about 1178 and are finished at about 1220, so this is the flowering of Romanesque art.

"These were the best artists – they got them from France."

The 43 windows in the ancestors of Christ series have been taken down for safekeeping, as work is taking place on their home – the crumbling stonework in the south west transept. And four of the priceless artefacts are now on show in the cathedral's crypt.

The windows of Methuselah and his son Lamech were made between 1178 and 1180, and those of Josiah and Ezechias were made between 1207 and 1213.

Ms Seliger said: "The stained glass will be in the crypt as long as the south window is under repair. We will change them every few months as we have so many in storage."

"The technology they used to make them is the same we have today. The glass was made in what is now southern Belgium and exported all over Europe.

"The making of the windows, the cutting of the pieces and leading them up and painting them and firing them, that was all done on site."

The windows are some of the old-



VIBRANT: Matusale's window

est glasswork in the cathedral. Originally there were 86 windows in the series, but only 43 survive today.

Ms Seliger said: "We do not have to do anything to keep the windows vibrant – they do that on their own. They do get corrosion if they get exposed to water, so condensation and rainwater are the most damaging things.

"The missing ancestors were destroyed either by iconoclasts or neglect. Because most of the ancestors were not actually saints, they were Old Testament figures, it is more likely they were neglected."



Pot hole 'find and fix' contractor kept busy

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

find and fix contractor in Canterbury, Walker Construction, repaired some 20,500m² – totalling 16,500m² of patching and 4,000m² of potholes – of roads in the area, using up to 13 crews a day.

"The majority of the work was concentrated on 100 roads worst-affected by the harsh winter. Crews averaged about 200m² per road, which is far more than we would normally treat and will keep these roads in a good state for the coming winter.

"The remaining roads, with an average of 15-20m² of repairs, were completed at a rate of between five and eight roads per day"

The council is currently undertaking a programme of road resurfacing works. Sea Street and Margate Road have already been re-laid, along with Millstrood Road, Clover Rise and Chestfield Road in Whitstable and School Lane in Herne.

Roads on the list include Honey Hill in Blean, St Lawrence Road and St Peter's Place in Canterbury, Cockering Road in Chartham and Central Parade in Herne Bay.

Bridge links village to joys of countryside

VILLAGERS were out in force on Monday to celebrate their new bridge, which provides much-needed pedestrian access across the A2.

Horse-riders, cyclists and walkers gathered at the Black Robin Pub in Kingston to explore the rights of way across the Kent Downs area of outstanding natural beauty, which had been cut off by the dual carriageway.

The timber-clad bridge means villagers from Adisham, Aylesham, Barham, Kingston and Womenwold can safely walk between their homes, and can get to A2 bus stops.

Kent councillor David Brazier, who was at the event, said: "This new bridge makes it easier to get across the A2 and discover the areas's natural attractions."

Freemen flock to exercise right

FREEMEN of the city gathered on Sunday to exercise their medieval right to drive sheep through the city.

The idea was to shepherd the sheep from the West Gate Towers to the cathedral to raise the profile of the historic religious building and the financial support it needs for a huge restoration project.

The sheep were dropped off in the High Street, where they huddled together in their pen, drawing a confused crowd of onlookers. As soon as the sheep were given their freedom they bolted along the street, where volunteers kept them from escaping down side streets.

The Romney Marsh sheep were herded towards Mercery Lane and entered the precincts through the Christ Church Gate.

But once inside the precincts the



ON THE RUN: The sheep run down the High Street and right, are led out of the King's School



plan went awry, as the sheep escaped into the King's School and had to be tempted out with a bucket of food, nearly jeopardising the Dean's appearance at morning communion.

Drovers included the Dean of Canterbury Robert Willis, Lord Mayor Cllr Pat Todd, Peter Williams

MBE and cathedral trustee Amanda Cottrell, who is a freeman of London.

The Very Reverend Dr Robert Willis said: "The freemen of the city have the ancient right to drive sheep through the city and it seemed a fun way to celebrate the link between cathedral and city at harvest time."

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Independent members will not be replaced

Whitstable Harbour Board now dominated by council

■ BY JENNY ARMSTRONG

NO action will be taken to get back members of Whitstable Harbour Board, who resigned over a council report on the institution.

Canterbury council called an emergency addition to its meeting on Thursday to decide whether to replace the four independent members who had left.

But the council decided to stick with the eight remaining members, only one of whom is not a city councillor, until it has decided the long-term future of the board.

During the meeting Cllr Michael Dixey, chairman of the harbour board, said: "It is with great regret that I accepted the resignation of four of the members. It is a very sad day for Whitstable and a very sad day for the harbour."

"I would like to place on record my thanks to the independent members for all the work they have done to turn the fortunes of the harbour round over the last eight years. It has been a dramatic turnaround and we are very grateful to them for that."

But Labour's Cllr John Wratten, who represents the Harbour ward, thought the council should ask the

members who had resigned to stay on.

He said: "It is essential to have high-quality independent people on the board and we should do all we can to get back those we had."

"I propose we leave their resignations on the table for the time being until such time as we consider the scrutiny review."

But the Lord Mayor pointed out the resignations were made to the harbour board, not the council, and had already been accepted.

Incensed Liberal Democrat leader Cllr Alex Perkins said: "I was dismayed with the report. I felt the scrutiny panel should have taken their report back."

"As much as I would like to get those professional individuals back on board, as much as I would like to find compromises we could reach, because they have made an incredible success, turning the harbour around from massive losses to massive profits, we can't because they have resigned."

"You could argue they were pushed out. You can argue they were left no choice by the report. But the only way we can continue is to go with this resolution."

A more philosophical Conservative Cllr Jackie Perkins said: "They are big boys, the four people who resigned. They knew exactly what they were doing."

"We should just say thank you very much indeed for all your hard work and look to the future."



RESPONSIBILITY: Kentish flats windfarm is maintained by engineers based at the Harbour, also home to fishing and aggregate industries

Young driver dies in tree incident

A TEENAGE boy has died in Petham after the car he was driving hit a tree.

The 17-year-old was the only person in the blue Chrysler Voyager when it came off the road at The Broadway, travelling towards the junction with The Street.

The crash happened at about 7.30am on Saturday, October 2. The driver died at the scene.

Police are appealing for any witnesses to the smash to call the Serious Collision Investigation Unit on 01622 798 538.

Witnesses sought to A2 lorry death

A WOMAN has died after being hit by a lorry on the A2 near Barham.

The 21-year-old, thought to be from Folkestone, was on foot on the dual carriageway with a friend when she was killed by the lorry just before 2.28am on Thursday, September 30.

Any witnesses to what happened or the events leading up to the woman's death should call Kent Police's Serious Crime Investigation Unit on 01622 798 538.

Police called out to rescue truck

AN errant lorry driver received a police escort after getting his truck stuck in a Canterbury street for two hours.

The lorry got stuck on residential Norman Road in the Nunnery Fields area of Canterbury at 5.20pm on Wednesday, September 29. Eventually parked cars could be moved to get the lorry out again.

Police then escorted the lorry to the A2 where it continued its journey to London.

Bear's happy 90th birthday

RUPERT Bear's 90th birthday is being celebrated with a television show paying a visit to his Canterbury museum.

BBC presenter Kaddy Lee-Preston has come to the museum to find out more about the bear's local links and his Canterbury-born creator Mary Tourtel.



Viewers can see Ms Lee-Preston taking tea with Rupert inside his house and read from the first ever Rupert book on the Inside Out

programme on Monday, November 8 - Rupert's birthday.

Fans also have the chance to celebrate the lovable bear's birthday at the museum's Rupert Bear Day on Saturday, November 6.

Children and adults alike can meet Rupert, have their latest annual signed by illustrator Stuart Trotter, make scarves, magic telescopes and enjoy storytelling and singing.

The museum's prices have been specially reduced for the day. Adults pay £2 and the fee is £1 for children aged two or over.

'Figure of fun' fined and banned for mini motorbike escapade

LEE Belfield was spotted riding a child's mini motorcycle with his two young sons on board and none of them were wearing crash helmets.

And Belfield's boozing the night before meant he was over the drink drive limit, Canterbury Magistrates were told.

Also the 31-year-old had a small amount of cannabis in his pockets.

Ruth Dalziel, prosecuting, said police spotted the bike in Knight's Avenue, Canterbury, and saw it turn into Wife of Bath Hill, where Belfield lives.

She said: "When officers stopped him they smelt alcohol on his breath. They also found a small bag of cannabis when they searched him. He admitted he didn't have a driving licence or insurance."

Phil Rowley, defending, said Belfield had been testing the bike as he'd just repaired it.

He said: "He would have cut a figure of fun as he was plainly too big for the bike."

"He was riding very slowly - slower than a push bike. He had been drink-



MINI MENACE: Mini motorbikes

ing at a social evening the night before and didn't realise he was over the limit."

Chairman of the Bench David Wilding said: "We don't regard these offences as trivial. You had no crash helmet on and neither did the two children. This could have had potentially serious consequences."

Belfield was fined £100 for drink driving and banned for 18 months.

He was fined an additional £50 for drug possession.



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VIBRANT: Palace Street is attracting new business, including Dera's internet cafe, owned by Victor Ojukwu, above

It's time to get people to stop and look around

■ BY FLORENCE TENNENT

THE start of the year saw the Kings Mile in Canterbury suffering, lined with empty white-washed shop windows and losing its weekend market after traders clashed with store owners.

Now, nine months on, Palace Street is beginning to blossom with new businesses opening and several more due to arrive.

Amy Mason opened the Bead Pot three and a half years ago. "I like the street; it has a unique atmosphere and a lot of sole traders as it's an affordable place for a first business in Canterbury."

"When I arrived half the shops were closed but business is steadily increasing and new traders are encouraging people to visit."

Not all businesses make it, with the new King's English bookstore the latest victim, but the empty stores they leave behind are now being snapped up as confidence returns to the economy.

The empty shop front left by Coffee and Corks is set to reopen as the Hutch, a vegetarian cafe. The huge Deakins store at the top of the street is in the process of being renovated and rumour has it that it will reopen as a fish-mongers, bakery and bar.

Good location

Dera's internet cafe opened last week for its first week of business.

Owner Victor Ojukwu said: "I used to run the same business in Margate but I wanted to move to Canterbury and thought Palace Street was a constructive busy location. Business is already picking up and I hope it'll be even better than where we were before."

A new recruitment agency moved in three weeks ago, a first solo venture for Rosie McMullen who manages the business with her husband and daughter.

Rosie said: "We offer old style recruitment; jobs and advice too. We're doing very well; I like the location because it's busy and we get the thoroughfare between the car park and the city centre."

The Kings Mile appeals to small independent, specialised shops which are often owned and run by families and typified by a friendliness and flexibility sometimes lost in the high street chains.



DEAKINS: Old store could become three businesses

Melanie Collins has run City Kitchen Centre with her husband for 32 years. "In a nutshell we have survived because we offer a personalised service for people who live locally. We've taken the slow and steady approach and established ourselves."

That sentiment is echoed by Chris Bellamy, who took over The Lighthouse from his father, one of the longest established businesses on the street after 43 years.

Chris said: "Business is steady; it can be challenging but we tend not to fare too badly because we have a strong customer base which we've built up over the years."

Terry and Caz opened Cafe 22 at the end of last year and believe cooperation is the key.

Terry said: "There's something about the atmosphere, it's like a little village community. Everyone visits each other and supports each other."

As if to prove his point Elton Waters, who took over West Gate Games a year ago, was sat at a table nearby.

Elton said: "It's a hidden part of Canterbury waiting to be discovered. Lots of people pass through but we need more excuses for people to stop and look around."



ESTABLISHED: City Kitchen Centre in Palace Street

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Honour for Highlanders

THE Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders have been presented with bagpipe colours by the city ahead of their imminent tour of Afghanistan.

The colours is a banner which hangs from one of the regimental piper's instruments. One side bears the regimental insignia and the other the city of Canterbury's crest.

The Lord Mayor of Canterbury, Cllr Pat Todd, said: "It gives me great pleasure to further cement our partnership with the Argyll and Sutherland regiment."

"We wish you a very prosperous time and you can rest assured we will do our bit to support you while you are away."

Representatives of the regiment, which is based in Howe Barracks, came to a council meeting in the Guildhall in full dress uniform to receive the colours. The piper, Rifleman Hall, played a rousing tune which brought the chamber to its feet.

Safe stolen from business

THIEVES have escaped with a safe full of cash from a business in Adisham after cutting a hole through the door.

Police believe the well-prepared criminals used machinery to cut their way through the door of the Hydra Group property at Rowland House on Station Road, Adisham, on September 25 at about 9pm. The crooks escaped across the railway line.

Police are calling for anyone with information to call them on 01843 222069 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555111.

Change to conversion law

FAMILY homes can now be converted into sublet apartments without planning permission because of a new planning law.

Previously, if a family home was to be let out to three or more unrelated people, the council had to give approval. But landlords now only need planning permission if seven or more unrelated people are to live in the house.

The council can bring in a ban on converting houses in areas with high concentrations of sublet houses, but this takes 12 months to take effect.

Council leader Cllr John Gilbey said: "The council wants to tackle this issue but we are effectively hamstrung for the next 12 months."

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Camera ensures that crooks' number's up

POLICE have caught nearly 50 people in a crackdown using state-of-the-art camera technology.

Officers from Kent's automatic number plate recognition teams went on an operation in east Kent from Friday, September 14 to Sunday, September 24.

Their special patrol cars can check every car they pass against police and licensing databases.

The police arrested 12 people for crimes including burglary and car theft. Officers also seized 35 cars for having no insurance of being used in crime.

Martin Lyddon, the team's manager at Kent Police, said: "We ran this operation over a ten-day period to remove those from the roads who presented a danger to law abiding motorists. "Technology continues to be a vital tool in proactively tackling crime and bringing about positive results for victims of crime."

Riverside path offers cyclists a new route

THE new riverside cycle path from Canterbury to Chartham has nearly been completed.

The 4km path, which can also be used by pedestrians, has taken two years to build and will join up with a national cycle route running through Ashford, Tenterden and Tunbridge Wells.

The new path means walkers and cyclists can enjoy their hobbies alongside the River Stour away from traffic.

It begins at Toddler's Cove by the Westgate Gardens in Canterbury and ends near Chartham Village Hall.

Support is vital for our city's soldiers during tough times

I RECENTLY had the privilege of attending Canterbury Cathedral for a pre-deployment service for the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, 5th Battalion The Royal Regiment of Scotland.

As many of you will be aware the battalion is currently deploying to Afghanistan for a six-month tour of duty.

The battalion is based at Howe Barracks in Canterbury and the Army's current plan sees them remaining here until 2023.

They are therefore very much part of the Canterbury community which is further evidenced by the number of local young men who, having decided upon the Army as a career, have then elected for the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders as their unit of choice.

I have no doubt that some local old soldiers will consider men of Kent wearing kilts a slightly strange concept.

The diverse nature of the battalion was bought sharply into focus during the service by the quite stunning singing of their Fijian choir.

BARLOW'S BEAT



The voices of the South Pacific from soldiers of a Scottish battalion filling Canterbury Cathedral created a most poignant experience for me, and I am sure for the many who were there.

After the service I had the pleasure of meeting a number of the battalion's officers.

While I was keen to hear of their preparations and expectations for the deployment to Afghanistan, they were interested in the impact that their 600 or so soldiers have on life in Canterbury from my policing perspective.

I was pleased to tell them that, although we do occasionally have matters to deal with involving soldiers, it is really no more than one should reasonably expect from a large group of fit, young men who live and work closely together as a team, trained to fight on behalf of our nation.



As Rudyard Kipling said in his famous poem 'Tommy' back in 1892: "Single men in barracks don't grow into plaster saints."

Wise words then that probably still apply.

Prior to the cathedral service the battalion marched through the city centre.

This hadn't been publicised, but the increased police presence ensured that word quickly spread and by the time the battalion marched through a large number of people had left the shops, offices and banks to line the streets.

The applause from the public was spontaneous and genuine.

I spoke to many of them and was heartened by people's sense of support and appreciation.

For whatever one's views may be regarding the politics of the UK's involvement it is surely right to support our service men and women as they do their duty, on our behalf, in the most challenging of circumstances.

Until next time, please take care and be safe.

Chief Inspector Steve Barlow



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Gary Rhodes
CELEBRITY CHEF

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QUESTION & ANSWER

ALWYN KNIGHT



Q Where have you been and why?

A I have been in the West Bank. My first visit was in 2005 and I have going for two or three months each year since. I have been based mainly in Hebron and in the south Hebron hills; the villages in the southern extremity of the West Bank.

It really is an extraordinary community. It is one of the oldest continuously-inhabited cities in the world. It is a medieval city and many of the houses are 600 to 800 years old. Of course the Ibrahimi mosque is a very sacred place for Jews, Muslims and indeed some Christians. It is the traditional burial place of Abraham and Sarah, so it has a very important historic role.

I first went with the Ecumenical Accompaniment Programme, which provides accompaniment for Palestinians in six different places in the West Bank and one in Jerusalem, as they go about their lives. The only condition is the Palestinians we accompany have to espouse non-violence in their resistance to the Israeli occupation.

Q Why do you accompany Palestinians?

A It means monitoring Israeli check-points, accompanying Palestinians, literally, if they have to go into places of danger.

In Hebron we accompanied children going to school who had to run the gauntlet of violent settlers. The idea is you can offer protection by

your presence, particularly if you belong to the international community with access to the media. People tend to behave better if they know they are being watched and monitored.

Q What did you experience in Hebron?

A It is a very deeply divided situation because, under international law, the occupation by Israel of the West Bank is illegal and there is a massive military presence in the West Bank. At every point you confront Israeli tanks, soldiers, aircraft and helicopters.

There is a lot of pressure, uniquely in Hebron, as a lot of Israeli settlers live in the old city. There are about 400 of them protected by perhaps 500 Israeli military. If you are a Palestinian living in the West Bank, you are living under military occupation and martial law applies.

There is a lot of harassment and violence from settlers. Most of the men carry guns and even the children can be quite violent. They think they have a God-given right to be there at the place of Abraham. It can be very daunting for Palestinians.

Q Was it dangerous?

A I have been caught up in violent situations. I have a few scars. The settlers act quite irrationally and with no sense of humanity, particularly in Hebron itself. I was out one day

when settlers appeared, masked and carrying heavy staves. Their intent was to chase Palestinian shepherds. I was there with a colleague and we got caught up in the mêlée. One of the sad outcomes was that the Israelis killed one of the donkeys that was with the shepherds.

Q How did the Palestinians cope?

A With remarkable dignity, and with a sense of humour, very often. The vast majority did so with non-violent resistance. They resist the occupation, but few resort to violence.

Q What is the solution?

A There are peace talks underway, again, but no Palestinian I know is holding their breath because both Palestine and Israel are divided societies.

The best hope is that President Obama says enough is enough. America has to put pressure on Israel to withdraw from the occupation. Many Palestinians and Israelis who are committed to a peaceful resolution, and building bridges between the communities.

Reverend Knight lives in Tenterden and gave a talk about his experiences to the East Kent Justice for Palestinians group. The next meeting is at 7.30pm tomorrow in St Paul's Church Hall, Church Street, Canterbury with speaker Julian Brazier MP on the Middle East crisis.

Q & A

Reporter **Jenny Armstrong** speaks to the Reverend Alwyn Knight about his personal experiences of violence while acting as accompaniment for Palestinians in the West Bank in the Middle East.

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Small business can count on support

A NEW accountancy firm has pledged to help small businesses after setting up in Canterbury.

TaxAssist Accountants, which specialises in small business tax and accountancy, has had a branch officially opened in Castle Street by the Lord Mayor of Canterbury, Cllr Pat Todd.

The shop was set up by Peter Norfolk, who has been running the Herne Bay branch of the firm, in Mortimer Street, for six years. He also operates in Whitstable and Faversham.

He said: "We offer a friendly, prompt service with fixed fees agreed in advance. This allows clients to concentrate on what they do best, with the assurance that their accountancy needs are being well looked after."

Showroom raffle in aid of charities

A CAR dealership is supporting breast cancer charities with a raffle packed with motoring prizes.

During October, raffle tickets from Robins and Day in Canterbury will offer the chance to win a £500 servicing voucher or use of a Peugeot 308 for a weekend.

Other prizes are a £100 voucher to use on car body work and alloy repairs, and a £45 valet voucher.

On Friday, October 29, the dealership will be holding fundraising events such as guess the number of sweets in the jar and balloons in the car.

Robins and Day will also donate all the money taken from their tyre inflation machine during October to charity.

Drink-drive crash chef gets 22-month road ban

■ BY JENNY ARMSTRONG

A DRINK-driver who injured seven people when he lost control of his car has been banned from the road for nearly two years.

Jeffery Giron, a chef at a care home, was driving along the narrow, winding and unlit Shalloak Road in Broad Oak, near Canterbury, on Sunday, September 12, when he lost control of his Mazda.

He was giving friends a lift on the way back from a christening at 10.30pm and had four passengers in the car.

Teresa Ruiz, prosecuting, said when the police arrived they found the Giron's Mazda in bushes facing the road. Everyone inside was injured and trapped. The car was badly damaged on one side and officers had to force the doors open.

They also found a Mercedes off the road, the front of which was crumpled. The two people inside were also injured. Mrs Ruiz said Giron, as assistant chef in a Bekesbourne care home, had initially said he had been turning around in the road when the other car hit him.

He later admitted he had drunk a can of beer and three to four shots of whisky and had lost control of his car along the winding road.

Giron's breath test showed 81 micrograms of alcohol per 100 millilitres of breath – more than



WINDING: Shalloak Road in Broad Oak, near Canterbury, where Jeffrey Giron lost control of his Mazda

twice the legal limit of 35 micrograms.

Paul Goldspring, defending, said: "The reading of 81 clearly gives rise to a hefty disqualification. He was at a christening, stayed behind to clear up and offered to give four friends a lift home. "He did not know the area and the steep and winding road. He says he should have known he was over the limit but says he did not feel drunk."

Giron had no previous driving convictions, and lives with his wife and two children.

Handing down judgement, the chair of the bench said: "We have taken into account there were passengers in the car and the accident did happen. This could have been a very nasty accident." Giron was ordered to pay a £350 fine, £85 costs and a £15 victim surcharge as well as being banned from driving for 22 months.



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Karl's TV tour bordering on stupidity



THE verbal punchbag of comedian Ricky Gervais admits he really would be stupid to agree to a second series of An Idiot Abroad.

Karl Pilkington – who achieved cult status as the deadpan producer of Gervais's podcast show – is now a star in his own right thanks to the eight-part Sky1 documentary, which continues this week.

But despite the show giving him the chance to visit all Seven Wonders of the World in the space of just a few weeks, the 38-year-old, who has a home in Deal, admits there were few highlights he will take from the trip.

"The Taj Mahal was the best and the pyramids were the worst," he said. "Chichen Itza was a bit of nothing, really. The Great Wall of China? It's just a joke because a lot of it isn't even that old – it was restored in 1985 or something. It's like a lot of Wimpey homes in

■ BY STEVE KNIGHT

the '80s – you look at the brick and think, I could have bought that from Homebase."

"And I'm not dissing religion or anything but I didn't get Christ the Redeemer. It's just a statue. The highest point, literally, would have to be Machu Picchu. But the real high point would be completing the journey, being at Heathrow airport after the last trip and going, 'I've done it.' It made me realise how happy I am with what I have."

Despite being described by Gervais as a "little round-headed buffoon", Manchester-born Pilkington is actually a respected producer in the radio world and was once head of production at Xfm.

Yet his unintentionally hilarious views on the world have won him an army of fans, most of whom are revelling in the torture he was

put through by Gervais and his comedy sidekick Stephen Merchant in An Idiot Abroad.

Pilkington said that despite being the butt of the pair's constant jokes on the show, he was confident he handled starring in it better than either of his friends would have.

"Steve might have been able to do a bit of it, but Ricky not at all," he said. "Even though I went through all this, I feel like the winner because I've done things he'll never do."

"He can keep his awards; I've been around the world. If I go to a party – which I won't – I've got more stuff to talk about."

"There's only so many times you can say 'Look at this award, everyone.' But, if you go 'have you ever had a poo in a tent? Have you ever had your leg set on fire? Have you been chased by bees?' That's the thing I'll take away from it all."

• Episode three of An Idiot Abroad can be seen on Sky1 at 9pm tomorrow (Thursday).



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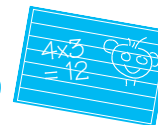
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BREAK TIME

Law students win racial abuse case in court

LAW students have won a racial discrimination and wrongful dismissal case which has seen an employer pay more than £40,000 in compensation.

Students and staff from the University of Kent's Law Clinic, based in Canterbury, represented café bar manager Paris Shabazz, who took his Ramsgate employer to court.

Third-year law students Sahar Zomorodi and Erik Homenick prepared the case for Mr Shabazz after he heard another employee call him 'that black b***** Paris' in front of another manager and a customer.

Mr Shabazz complained but nothing was done, and a few weeks later he was dismissed for misconduct as he had been accused of stealing money from his employer.

Mr Shabazz was arrested, charged and acquitted. Sabina Wyant, who has just graduated with a first-class degree in law, and Elaine Heslop, a lecturer at the university's law school and practicing solicitor, represented Mr Shabazz at an employment tribunal in Ashford.

During the trial the judge said: "The evidence shows the dismissal was unfair and conducted in a chaotic manner."

"He was told he was a 'black b*****', which he found humiliating and discriminatory. His dignity was affected and he found his working environment hostile."

Mr Shabazz was awarded £39,263 for unfair dismissal and £4,500 for the discrimination.

Win a chance to be the Lord Mayor for day

CHILDREN could win the chance to be Lord Mayor for a day if they do well in an essay competition.

A budding politician or prime minister in the making will get to spend the day with Lord Mayor Cllr Pat Todd as he carries out his civic duties.

The youngster will also be allowed to feel the weight of the mayor's golden chain when they try on the civic robes.

Portrait

To enter the competition, pupils must be between 11 and 18 and be from Canterbury, Whitstable, Herne Bay or the surrounding villages. Entrants must write up to 250 words on the subject: 'What I would do if I were Lord Mayor for a day'.

Younger children also have a chance to find out more about the Lord Mayor, by drawing or painting the best portrait of him.

The child aged between five and 11 who creates the best picture can bring their entire primary school class on a free coach trip to the Lord

■ BY JENNY ARMSTRONG

Mayor's official parlour to see the dignitary and his regalia and learn more about him.

Essays and pictures should be sent to Nicky Gould, Community Development, Canterbury City Council, Military Road, Canterbury, CT1 1YW or emailed to nicky.gould@canterbury.gov.uk

All entries should include a name, address, age and telephone number.

The closing date for both competitions is Wednesday, October 20.

The winning essay writer will be Lord Mayor for the day on Wednesday, October 27, and the winning artists can visit the Lord Mayor with their class on Thursday, November 4.

The Lord Mayor's competitions are run by the council every year as part of Local Democracy Week, which aims to get youngsters more involved in local government.

For more details about the competitions and a picture of the Lord Mayor go to www.notbored.net/democracy



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Page 49



Miliband 'right for the future of Labour party'

■ BY MARIJKE COX

ED Miliband's leadership is the 'end of New Labour,' say the party's former Kent MPs, who have welcomed his victory in the battle to replace Gordon Brown.

The ex-MPs also claimed that Mr Miliband, who narrowly beat his brother David in the leadership battle, was the man who would win back the support of the county's voters.

Derek Wyatt, former MP for Sittingbourne and Sheppey, said New Labour, which was introduced by Tony Blair in 1997, had not been successful in recent years and it was crucial for the party that changes were made.

He said: "A lot of people said they didn't vote Labour in May because they were fed-up with the party."

"No brand lasts forever, unless you're Disney or Kodak, and so something needed to change."

"I think some of us were sick of the Blair and Peter Mandelson soap opera."

"Ed has come in and said enough is enough – it's the end of New Labour."

"I voted for him and I was doing his campaigning. I think he is the man who can take the party forward and win back Kent's voters."

Former MP for Dover and Deal Gwyn

Prosser said he thought David Miliband would step away from frontline politics.

But unlike his former colleague's opinion that Ed Miliband's first speech as leader was "terrific", Mr Prosser said it was "not great".

"I don't think he's a natural orator," he said. "I think he'll get stronger and he is a leader who can take us into the next general election."

"He made it clear there was a new generation coming through and that New Labour had run its course."

"I've never hidden it that I like old Labour, but we're not going back there, we're moving forward."

"In 1997 until 2001 we made changes that meant people in Kent and the rest of England were comfortable, but in the last four years we haven't been listening as we should have."

"Ed is confronting things such as immigration that Gordon Brown was too precious to do."

"He is talking a lot about optimism, which is something that contrasts with what David Cameron has been saying."

Paul Clark, former MP for Gillingham and Rainham, said although he was helping in the leadership campaign for shadow education secretary Ed Balls, his second vote went to Mr Miliband.

"I thought his speech oozed the message of leadership," said Mr Clark.

"The difference between him and David Cameron is he talks about being optimistic."

Mr Clark added: "The feeling of the confer-

ence is very buoyant. We are determined to get on with being an effective opposition, which is what is a democratic society needs."

Former Chatham and Aylesford MP Jonathan Shaw, ex-Medway MP Bob Marshall-Andrews and ex-Dartford MP Howard Stoate were unavailable for comment.



GOING FORWARD:

Ed Miliband will win back Labour voters, say ex-MPs



Picture: MATT BUCK

Making a fast buck on trains

PASSENGERS trying to travel first class to London on high-speed trains are paying almost £100 for a non-existent service.

Online ticket websites, including train company Southeastern's, allow customers to select the first class option when buying tickets for travel between Kent and St Pancras on the new high-speed line.

But websites fail to mention there is no first class service on High Speed One (HS1), meaning consumers are paying above the norm for a seat in an exclusive carriage that does not exist.

A standard return high-speed ticket from Ramsgate to St Pancras costs £31.50, providing the passenger travels at specific times.

For a more flexible ticket allowing the customer to be more selective about when they

travel, the cost can rise to £56 or more.

But for first class travel, fares can go up to as much as £91.80, with a slightly cheaper ticket priced at £85.80.

Customers boarding the train to London, however, will find there is only one class on HS1 and the high fare does not even guarantee a seat.

A spokesman at Southeastern, which runs the high-speed service, confirmed there was no first class service on HS1, but said buying that type of ticket gave passengers the flexibility to travel on both high speed and the first class mainline service.

He said: "If anyone feels they have bought the first-class ticket by mistake, then we would be more than happy to refund the difference."

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YOUR LETTERS

We council workers also pay our taxes

What a lot of people forget is that working for the council doesn't make you exempt from council tax – we still have to pay council tax and work and live in the borough.

It would also be good if you looked at your council tax bills and saw how much actually comes to your local council. Councils don't just empty the bins.

I agree strike action is not the answer. With the economic climate the way it is everyone will suffer.

Not all council workers have high pay and low output. Some work hard and earn an average wage, just like the private sector.

Vickie Hewson, by email

It's time for action on ailing waterways

With only five per cent of rivers in England and Wales described as being in a pristine condition, the Environment Agency is setting in motion management plans to improve the quality of our waterways.

Our waterways are a valuable resource that support a range of wildlife. However, they face a variety of pressures including runoff pollution from fertilisers and poorly designed urban drainage; invasive species such as signal crayfish and American mink; and low water levels caused by over abstraction.

There are many pressures on our waterways and the life they support. We have to do all we can to protect these vital wildlife habitats and ensure people can continue to enjoy them. River basin management plans have been drawn up to tackle these issues and are now being put into action.

The South East River Basin District covers over 10,000 square kilometres, and includes east Kent, Hampshire, the Isle of Wight, and East and West Sussex. Ninety-nine water bodies – rivers, reservoirs and estuaries – have been prioritised for action between now and 2015.

Kent has a number of water bodies identified for improvement. Parts of the River Darent suffer from diminished fish numbers; the River Medway suffers from diminished invertebrate numbers; and the River Stour suffers from excessive levels of phosphates.

The RSPB, along with other voluntary conservation bodies, is urging the EA to implement the programme urgently and to work with partners to deliver results.

The EA is now moving from investigation to action, which is a huge step forward.

For many of our water bodies we have clear identification of the problems, the solutions required and who is responsible for taking them forward.

Steve Gilbert, RSPB conservation programme manager

your blogger

Ian MacMillan explains why bankers nowadays aren't what they used to be



GOBSMACKED is a word I was unused to when it made its way into the lexicon of common parlance back in the 90s, but it is a useful word.

I write as someone who worked in banking for 32 years and, indeed, passed all my banking exams and was so well qualified that I was in the top 50 out of 20,000 so qualified in the early 70s. I gained one of only five distinctions awarded in monetary theory.

Then, following deregulation, matters took a turn for the worse.

No more Captain Mainwaring's little branch in an idyllic small town, which we all looked forward to.

The banks' advertising claimed that us lowly bank clerks were experts at everything.

As good at house purchase as any building society, as expert at insurance as any broker. As for wills, we could do it – or pretend to.

'Jack of all trades and master of none' was the appropriate line and, where once bankers had provable expertise, customers were now in the hands of those with the gift of the gab and targets to make to secure bonuses.

Not wishing to be part of this Brave New World, I asked customers for the leaflets they had and, quickly scanning them, knew almost as much as they did.

As I'm in receipt of a pension for doing zilch apart from criticise, I must not bite the hand that feeds me too much – but does anyone remember the Office of Fair Trading's ruling that bank charges were tantamount to theft?

You know, £75 for going overdrawn for a day and, in my

daughter's case, despite having plenty of funds in another account.

And then fat-cat lawyers sided with fat-cat bankers to make this theft quasi-legal. Apart from seething, what can Joe Public do? Well, nothing.

If the OFT is toothless, then there's no hope for little old me and you. And this is where that word gobsnacked seems most appropriate.

Yes, the independence of the judiciary is something to be cherished, but the fact that justice is up for sale to the highest bidder is something to be less sanguine about.

I once thought that the average bank clerk was innocent of this negation of ethical behaviour, but I've since changed my mind.

Visiting a bank in Canterbury and waiting to be served, I noticed employees behind screens talking about their holidays and noshing their lunch.

Another one, presumably working, was leaning over one of the said screens and occasionally looking back at those waiting to be served.

Eventually I was seen to and it was something of a contest of contempt. His 'How dare you demand to be served!' against my 'How dare you be so condescending about eventually dealing with a customer!'.

I reckon bankers have adopted a siege mentality akin to those Millwall fans who chant "No one likes us – we don't care". And indeed, why should they care? The bankers, I mean.

Immune to the OFT recommendations and enjoying their bonuses, they appear to be able to put two fingers up to the rest of us with impunity.

If there is a story in your area you think we should be covering contact the editor, **Gareth Arnold**, on 01303 817025 or email him on the details above. If you want to be the next Canterbury blogger then all you have to do is submit an article to us (of around 550 words) and email it to the editor. And don't forget, for all the latest news and video from your town log-on to www.yourcanterbury.co.uk.



ED MILIBAND: Labour Party leader

Battle for Britain is lost 70 years later

Ed Miliband is the new Labour leader, so it's back to the days when the unions ruled the party. It will keep Labour out of power for a decade at least.

The joke about the Labour conference was that they were telling this insipid coalition Government how to save the economy, yet they are responsible for the mess we are in.

As for the unions, they are flexing their muscles, ruining everyone holiday plans so members can keep their freebies, and threatening massive disruption if the Government makes any cuts.

Yet where were they when British

companies and their shareholders were sacking workers and replacing them with cheap foreign labour? Nowhere. They couldn't be seen being non-PC and anti-foreigner – it was better for them to see British subjects suffer. The unions could have done a lot of good stopping the evil side of capitalism.

In Kent we have farmers refusing to employ Britons and factories in Sittingbourne doing the same.

They have the regular excuses: we only deal with agency workers; Britons do not want the jobs, they are too lazy; the British want too much money and a 40-hour week.

Yet the truth is they make a bigger profit with foreigner workers. This is called greed.

These companies do not even consider their fellow Britons, they are there to be trodden on and left to live in squalor and hunger. Having your own business is not just about profit. It is by helping yourself, you can help your fellow countrymen. Now we have an open door to benefits tourists. The EU has warned Britain it can't stop thousands more migrants claiming welfare handouts.

If the Tories had honoured their pledges and got rid of this terrible Human Rights Act we would not be in this mess and this coalition Government tell us they will prevent it happening – and pigs might fly. When will the British stand up against this EU dictatorship? We are honouring the people of the Battle of Britain for saving us from a European

dictatorship, yet 70 years later we have one and have been invaded by people who are not wanted.

When will another Winston Churchill appear and get rid of these EU quislings?

Martin Clarke, Sittingbourne

Rural partnership is best for all parties

Shooting and angling have a vital role to play in providing a joined-up approach to the rural environment and economy, shadow environment minister Huw Irranca-Davies told delegates at the Labour Party conference in Manchester last week.

Mr Irranca-Davies was speaking at The rural reception organised by the British Association for Shooting and Conservation (BASC) and the Angling Trust.

He said this partnership approach was driven by organisations such as BASC and the trust, adding that Labour needed to utilise the expertise of rural people to provide solutions to rural problems. He concluded his address by stating that in opposition, Labour needs to work constructively with organisations such as BASC and the Angling Trust to ensure an economically, socially and environmentally viable future for rural areas.

Mark Lloyd, chief executive of the Angling Trust said anglers want to see more fish in inland and coastal

waters and the first step is to continue improving water quality. He said there was still a long way to go but anglers will work with other organisations to help achieve it. Mr Lloyd said the Environment Agency should be reformed to shift its focus to regulation rather than delivery of objectives.

Concluding the reception, John Swift, chief executive of the British Association for Shooting and Conservation reviewed the work of Labour over its time in government. He highlighted the positive work of politicians such as Martin Salter, Ben Bradshaw and Paddy Tipping on issues including firearms legislation, tail docking, pest control and game licences.

BASC members come from all political and economic backgrounds, Mr Swift said. He warned that many people who shoot will be affected by spending cuts. He said BASC was prepared to work with Labour to achieve benefits for shooting and for the wider rural environment and economy.

Debbie Collins, by email

Register to ensure referendum vote

There is already quite a lot of interest in the Government's proposal to hold a referendum throughout the UK on the voting system we use to elect MPs. This is due to take place on May 5, 2011, when there will also be local government elections in some parts of England. Now is the time for your readers to make sure they have filled in and returned the annual forms they will have received through the post, to make sure they are on the electoral register.

You can even request a postal vote now, so that no matter where you'll be on polling day, you won't miss your chance to have your say. Visit www.aboutmyvote.co.uk for information about the annual canvass and forthcoming elections and referendums.

Peter Wardle, chief executive, Electoral Commission

All they need is love

I am going to scream if I hear any more claims that more children are special needs and the blame put on teachers. The main culprits are the parents, a lot are too young to have a child, or to know how to start the teaching process at home in the first five years. No preparation is given to children in many families. They don't read to their children, or talk to them.

Teachers have a tough job. They are expected to be social workers and are not allowed to discipline children. Many youngsters start school with behavioural problems. Yes, many have needs, but not special needs. Children need good parents who will love them, feed them, teach them and care for them. Many do not get this because the mothers are not mature enough to look after themselves, let alone bring up a child.

C Russell, by email

More obese patients opt for weight loss surgery

■ BY MARIJKE COX

THE number of obese people being put forward for weight loss surgery on the NHS has rocketed in Kent over the last three years.

Last year, NHS West Kent referred 115 patients to the Morbid Obesity Single Patient Funding Panel – a massive increase of 203 per cent from 2007-08 – while NHS Eastern and Coastal Kent did the same for 113 patients, an increase of 163 per cent.

Many of those put forward would have been deemed suitable for bariatric (weight loss) surgery including gastric band operations and gastric bypasses, which cost an average of £10,000 per patient.

Nationally, the number has risen from just 238 a decade ago to almost 7,000 in 2008.

However, Maidstone GP and British Medical Association spokesman Dr Paul Hobday said it was inevitable uptake rates of a fairly new procedure would increase dramatically.

"It's only really gone up so much because the figures started from zero," he said. "But there are so many obstacles put in people's way before they are approved – like exercise programmes, dieting and psychologists – that most of the people who get the surgery absolutely deserve it."



"From a GP's point of view it's not available enough. It's easy to say people shouldn't eat as much, but the problem needs to be tackled."

Gastric banding involves reducing the size of the stomach by fitting a band around it, while a gastric bypass re-routes food to a small stomach pouch created by surgeons.

A third procedure, used less frequently, removes a portion of the stomach.

Mike Lander, morbid obesity lead commissioner for the South East, said bariatric surgery was a last resort for patients who have been unable to lose weight by conventional means, or who have a body mass index above a certain level.

NHS trusts in Kent have snubbed recommendations from a national health advisor to pay obese people to lose weight, even though almost a quarter are obese. The National Institute of Clinical Excellence (NICE), an independent organisation set up by Government to issue health guidance, said incentives such as cash, could be an effective way to help people diet and giving up smoking. But Kent's three primary care trusts have said paying people to lose weight is not the way to tackle Kent and Medway's obesity problem. The NICE report into incentive-driven health schemes, which invites members of the public to give their opinion, is available at www.nice.org.uk.

He added: "Each patient will only be considered if all other ways to lose weight have been tried for at least 12 months."

The figures obtained by KOS Media through a Freedom of Information Act request date back to the establishment of the patient funding panel in July, 2006.

From then to the following March, only 14 people were referred by West Kent and just five by Eastern and Coastal.

Richard D North, a spokesman for right wing think tank the Social Affairs Unit, said it was probably cheaper for overweight people to undergo bariatric surgery than it would be to fund their long-term health problems.

Experts warn of pensions crisis

A PENSIONS panic is on the horizon with the number of Kent workers reaching retirement age set to rise by nearly a fifth.

This year about 32,700 people turned 65 across the county, but that figure is expected to jump to 38,700 by the time the Olympics come to town in 2012.

Four Kent districts – Dartford, Sevenoaks, Canterbury and Maidstone – are all set for increases of more than 20 per cent, with experts warning the cost of paying for so many state pensions will place an even greater strain on public finances.

Across the county the number of pensioners will rise by an estimated 18 per cent.

In an average year about 650,000 people celebrate their 65th birthday, but this is due to rise to 800,000 in 2012 due to the post-war baby boom.

Pensions expert Dr Ros Altmann, director-general of the Folkestone-based Saga group, said: "More and more pensioners are coming through every year and it's something successive Governments have failed to plan for."

Proposals currently being considered by the Government to tackle the problem include bringing forward increases to the state pension age and allowing people to work past it, should they wish to continue earning a full-time wage.

Kent's ageing population is also creating challenges for Kent County Council, which provides a range of services for elderly people including sheltered accommodation and active life projects.

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WARNING: Amanda Thomas fears an outbreak

Cholera still a threat to UK, claims author

DEADLY diseases may still exist in Kentish waters despite having laid dormant for hundreds of years, warns the author of a new book on cholera.

Hundreds of people died when an outbreak of the infection, thought to have been caused by poor living conditions near the River Thames in Lambeth, south London, swept through the county in the mid-19th century.

But despite only 35 cases of cholera having been reported in Europe since 2000, Amanda Thomas – author of the Lambeth Cholera Outbreak of 1848-1849 – is warning that people should not be complacent about its existence.

She said: "I'd be surprised if it still exists in the Thames because of all the cleansing work carried out there.

"I don't think cholera has left our shores so we must be careful. It won't be terrorists or another big war that kills the human race; it will be some sort of epidemic."

Cholera is an intestinal infection caused by ingestion of food or water contaminated with the bacterium *Vibrio cholerae*. It causes a painless, watery diarrhoea that can quickly lead to severe dehydration and death if treatment is not promptly given.

The Lambeth Cholera Outbreak of 1848-49 is available now, priced £37.95 through Amazon.

Kent/Essex serious crime fighting team 'making an impact'

■ BY STEVE KNIGHT

KENT Police have lauded the early success of a new serious crime partnership with Essex despite it being 18 months away from being fully operational.

Based in Northfleet, near Gravesend, the Serious Crime Directorate tackles big-league offenders causing problems in both counties such as armed robbery gangs, drug smugglers and serial car thieves.

And although the new division will not be fully implemented until April 2012, the man in charge – Kent's Assistant Chief Constable Alan Pughsley – believes the early signs are promising.

Successful

He said: "The message at the moment is that the Serious Crime Directorate is here and is having a real impact on the people who cause us the most harm.

"Once all the other departments are finalised, we will be more successful than we already have been in the short time the command structure has been in place.

"To deliver what it has in a period of transition is outstanding. When that transition has finished, we'll be better than ever."

The Kent and Essex forces agreed to team up in the new initiative because of the similar

problems faced by both, as well as their broadly similar numbers and organisation.

Mr Pughsley says that since the beginning of September the directorate has solved 60 offences. These include crimes tackled as part of Operations Pint and Julius, both of which involved London thieves stealing high-value cars from businesses in Kent and Essex.

"It makes a huge difference having police from both forces working side-by-side in the same room on the same problems," said Mr Pughsley.

"When you're investigating a particular crime you should always do a national check to see if any other force is too, but there would have been occasions in the past when two sets of people were looking at the same thing.

"The new partnership means we can also work with the Metropolitan Police in a much more cohesive way."

Last month Chief Constable Ian Learmonth revealed that Kent Police may lose 1,500 jobs if its budget is cut by 20 per cent in the Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR), which will be published on October 20.

However, Mr Pughsley said he was confident



PROMISING: Asst Chief Con Alan Pughsley is encouraged by early results in the Kent/Essex Police collaboration

the new directorate would escape relatively unscathed.

He said: "I think the CSR will affect policing universally but we are in a very strong position in that both the Chief Constable and the Kent Police Authority are supportive of such a dedicated unit.

"I think the future is secure but what we've got to make sure of is that we are as efficient and effective as we can be.

"Some of the work done by bringing the two forces together in this way has already allowed us to look at how we can do things differently, and I'm sure as we work through the process we will find other ways to make savings."

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- 4 nights at the 3 star superior Hotel Ala in central Venice
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- Water taxi transfer to Carnival
- Coach transfer to Opatija, Croatia
- 7 nights at the Four Flowers Hotel, Opatija, 7 breakfasts & 7 dinners
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DAY & NIGHT

Night in the Shadows

TAKE a musical tour through the career of the Shadows when a top tribute band visits Tenterden.

The Bootleg Shadows return to the Sinden Theatre at 7.30pm on Saturday to perform some of the band's best-loved hits, from Apache to Wonderful Land. Tickets cost £14. To book call 01580 763826 or visit www.sindentheatre.biz.

Classic art on display

ORIGINAL prints by James Barry and his contemporaries are on display at the University of Kent in Canterbury.

Works by Reynolds, Gainsborough, Mortimer and Fuseli can also be seen at Studio 3 Gallery in the Jarman Building from 9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday, until December 17. Admission is free. For details call 01227 827228.

Holby star in concert

A VERY special concert will be held at the parish church at Boughton-under-Blean at 7pm on Saturday.

Holby City star Tish Potter and organist Stuart Neame will perform songs they have played at celebrity weddings.

Tickets are £10/£5 from Boughton Post Office, the Fleur de Lis in Faversham and Judy Collins on 01227 751742.

Jazz moves to theatre

LIVE jazz continues in Folkestone this week with a performance by the Pete Abbott Sound on Thursday.

After moving from The Grand, the weekly Thursday jazz nights can still be enjoyed at the Tower Theatre in Shornecliffe.

To book tickets call 01303 277175.

Supper at brewery

INDULGE in some tasty tipples at Shepherd Neame in Faversham with a traditional Ale Samplers' Supper.

Friday's event includes a tutored tasting, evening tour of the brewery and two-course meal in the Visitor Centre bar. Tickets cost £24.50. To find out more email tours@shepherdneame.co.uk or call 01795 542016.

Teacher sings the blues

BLUES artist Roger Sutcliffe will be appearing at Faversham Folk Club next Wednesday.

The music and geology teacher is also a professional singer and guitarist. He will be playing at the Chimney Boy in Preston Street, Faversham, at 8.30pm.

Admission costs £5 for members, £6 for non-members and is free for under-18s. For details call 01795 536857.

Frankenstein on stage

A MONSTER will be unleashed at the Tower Theatre in Shornecliffe as the FHODS Youth Section presents Frankenstein.

Adapted from Mary Shelley's novel, the macabre and humorous tale is suitable for all ages. Frankenstein runs from Thursday to Saturday. Tickets are £8/£7 from the box office on 01303 223925 or visit www.towertheatrefolkestone.co.uk.

Characters come alive at Anifest

CANTERBURY ANIFEST

Friday, October 8, and Saturday, October 9
Canterbury Christ Church University, Canterbury

GET animated this week when the university hosts this year's celebration of a special art form.

The Canterbury Anifest will be bigger and better than ever, with two days of workshops, talks, screenings and competitions. There will be special guests in the form of dynamic clay duo Wallace and Gromit, along with other celebrities and professionals in the animation field.

The festival is being run by Animate and Create, which was awarded the contract by Canterbury City Council. Based in Whitstable, the company follows in the footsteps of renowned Kent animators Peter Firmin and Oliver Postgate.

Friday is Young People's Day, offering schools and youth groups the chance to learn about the business of animation. They will have opportunities to meet models of Wallace and Gromit and to hear from the creators, Aardman Animations.

Bagpuss and Emily Firmin, daughter of creator Peter Firmin, will be making appearances and the work of local schoolchildren will be showcased too. Students from Spires Academy, Archbishop's School, St Anselm's Catholic School, Barton Court Grammar, Simon Langton Girls Grammar and Community College, Whitstable, have been taking part in the Arts to Animation Project, and their films will be screened on Friday.

Saturday is the main festival day and there is plenty lined up for visitors of all ages to enjoy. The doors at Augustine House open at 10.30am and the first event begins at 11am. Aardman Animations offers a glimpse behind the scenes of Wallace and Gromit's world, when a member of the production crew sheds light on how the award-winning films are made. Tickets cost £5 for adults and £3 for children.

At 12.30pm, children and the young at heart can enter the magical world of The Gruffalo. Julia Donaldson's much-loved children's book was adapted by the BBC and the animated film features the voices of James Corden, Helena Bonham Carter and John Hurt. The film is being given a special screening on Saturday and tickets



cost £5 for adults and £3 for children.

The work of Peter Firmin and Oliver Postgate is celebrated at 2.30pm, when the Children of Small Films – Dan and Stephen Postgate, Emily and Charlotte Firmin – share their memories of growing up around such classic animated characters as Bagpuss and the Clangers.

The event will be introduced by children's television director Martin Goodsmith and tickets cost £5/£3.

At 4pm the entries in the short film competition will be screened, and the awards will be

presented. Entries include On the Water's Edge by Tommaso di Sanctis, An Audience With by David Keefe, Polished Off by David Edgley, Mi'au Myau by Vida Vega, Matter Fisher by David Prosser, Mad Dogs and Englishmen by Daniel Chester, Thursday by Matthias Hoegg, Traumdeutung by Lauri Warsta, Gorge by Thomas Knowler, Paper Daydream by Jun Iwakawa and The Eagleman Stag by Mike Please.

Spend an evening with Phill Jupitus, pictured left, and comedian Emma Kennedy at 7pm, finding out which cartoons make them laugh. Jupitus will discuss his love for Looney Tunes and Kennedy, the author of the Wilma Tenderfoot children's crime series, will reveal her penchant for Bugs Bunny. Tickets cost £10.

Adult day passes cost £25/£20. To book call 01227 769075 or go online at www.thegulbenkian.co.uk.



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THE LITTLE BIG CLUB

Sunday, October 10, Winter Gardens, Margate



SIX popular children's characters appear together on stage for the first time in The Little Big Club.

In this vibrant theatre production, an ensemble of preschool favourites will be appearing to entertain their fans. Packed with music, fun and laughter, The Little Big Club is a great way to introduce children to live theatre in an exciting way.

Bob the Builder, Barney and Friends, Angelina Ballerina, Fireman Sam, Fifi Forget-Me-Not and Pingu will all be making appearances and joining in the fun. The Little Big Club

Band provides the music and encourages the audience to join in with each character when they go on stage.

For the grand finale, all the characters will join together to bring the show to an uplifting close. To find out more about the show, visit the website at www.thelittlebigclub.com.

The 70-minute performance starts at 1pm. Tickets cost £12 for adults, £10 for children and £40 for families of four. To book call the box office on 01843 292795/296111 or visit the website at www.margatewintergardens.co.uk.



KASAI MASAI

Monday, October 11, Gulbenkian Theatre, Canterbury



PERK up your lunchtime with a free concert from world music band, Kasai Masai.

Sponsored by law firm Furley Page, the show is the first in a season of free lunchtime concerts in Canterbury. With their intriguing blend of traditional sounds and contemporary influences, Kasai Masai will brighten up any day.

Taking the ancestral music of remote equatorial African villages, which has been passed down from generation to generation, the band adds its own unique twist to the songs. Percussion and vocals are com-

bined with the Congolese guitar and jazz saxophone to create the distinctive Kasai Masai sound.

Furley Page will be sponsoring three concerts over the coming months. On November 8, the dynamic duo of Mark Eden and Christopher Stell will give guitar renditions of works by Bach and Rodrigo, while the choristers of Canterbury Cathedral will sing on December 6.

The lunchtime concerts start at 1.10pm and there is a suggested donation of £3. To find out more go to the website at www.kent.ac.uk and visit the music page.

RODNEY BEWES - THREE MEN IN A BOAT

Sunday, October 10, Memorial Theatre, Broadstairs



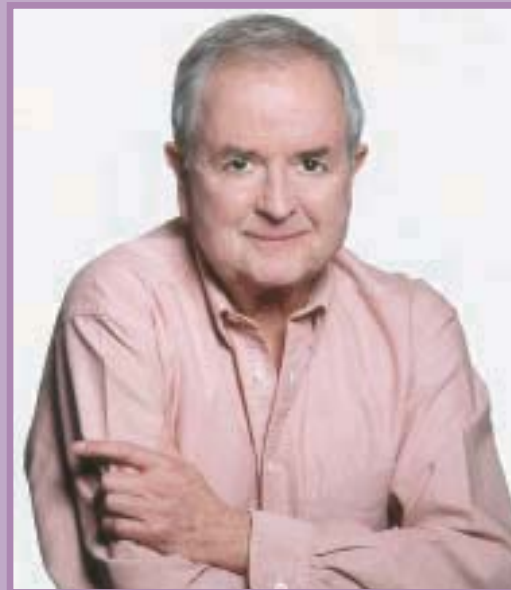
A CLASSIC story of messing about on the river is brought to life by veteran actor Rodney Bewes.

The star of The Likely Lads will be delighting the audience with stories about three friends taking a boating trip up the Thames, in the company of Montmerency the dog. Jerome K Jerome's much-loved book provides the source material for this highly entertaining comedy, performed by one of our greatest comic actors.

When three friends decide to take a holiday together, they settle on a boating trip, but things go wrong from the outset. During the trip they experience various comic scenarios, including the time that Harris manages to get 40 strangers lost in Hampton Court maze.

A big success at this year's Edinburgh Festival, Three Men in a Boat is an enchanting show that demonstrates the talents of both Bewes and Jerome.

The show starts at 6pm and tickets cost £10.50 for Sarah Thorne Theatre Club members and £12.50 for non-members, who must book at least 24 hours in advance. To book call 0845 262 6263 or email info@sarahthorne-theatreclub.co.uk to reserve.



STINA WILSON AND ALEX RIDER

Friday, October 8, Town Hall, Deal



ENJOY the enchanting sounds of flute and harp at the second of the Deal Festival chamber concerts.

Local flautist Stina Wilson will perform with harpist Alex Rider, who is currently on the Masters programme in music at Canterbury Christ Church University.

They will present a varied programme, which includes works by Bach, Donizetti, Antoine Francisque, Alan Hovhaness and Ian Clarke.

Wilson lives in Canterbury, but she has performed throughout the UK, Europe and US. She studied at the Guildhall before moving on to the Paris Conservatoire and the Moscow Conservatoire. She has worked with a number of high-profile orchestras, holding the position of principal flute at Opera North for 17 years.

After studying under Frances Kelly and Gabriella Dall'Olio, Rider moved to Canterbury to continue his studies and has been in high demand as an orchestral and chamber musician. His local appearances have included performing alongside Wilson as part of the Cinque Ports Ensemble concert at last year's festival.

The concert starts at 7.30pm and tickets cost £10 or £18 for two concerts from the Sound House on 01304 381134.



PATRICK MONAHAN

Friday, October 8
Granville Theatre, Ramsgate



COMEDIAN Patrick Monahan will be aiming for the funny bone when he visits Thanet this week.

With a complex cultural background that includes northern, Irish and Iranian elements, Monahan has some interesting influences to draw on. Last year's national tour was so successful that he is back on the road again to win more fans.

Combining his observational comedy with a sharp wit and entertaining audience interaction, he has become highly popular on the live circuit.

Monahan has often been seen on The Paul O'Grady Show on Channel 4 and has sold out a number of runs at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. One critic declared his show to be the best at the festival in 2008 and he has drawn comparisons to Ed Byrne, Adam Bloom and Ross Noble.

He will have support from Alan Seaman, who performs extracts from his show, Shopping and Cooking.

The show starts at 8pm and tickets cost £12/£10. To book call the box office on 01843 591750. To find out more about Patrick Monahan and watch clips of his routines, visit www.patrickmonahan.co.uk.





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Chatham	Saturday	2:19pm 6.6m	Sunday	3:01pm 6.6m
Dover	Saturday	12:33pm 72m	Sunday	1:15pm 70m
Dungeness	Saturday	12:39pm 8.4m	Sunday	1:20pm 8.3m
Ramsgate	Saturday	1:03pm 5.5m	Sunday	1:45pm 5.4m
Sheerness	Saturday	2:09pm 6.2m	Sunday	2:51pm 6.2m
Whitstable	Saturday	2:15pm 5.7m	Sunday	2:59pm 5.7m

 **SUNRISE** 7.04am **SUNSET** 6.22pm

 **MOONRISE** 5.15am **MOONSET** 5.19pm

FIVE-DAY KENT FORECAST

	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon											Whitstable	Saturday	2:15pm 5					
Ashford	17°C	16°C	18°C	19°C	18°C	Dover	16°C	15°C	17°C	17°C	17°C	Gravesend	18°C	17°C	18°C	19°C	18°C	Sevenoaks	16°C	15°C	17°C	18°C	17°C
Canterbury	18°C	16°C	17°C	19°C	16°C	Faversham	17°C	17°C	16°C	17°C	16°C	Maidstone	17°C	16°C	17°C	19°C	18°C	Sittingbourne	17°C	17°C	16°C	17°C	16°C
Chatham	17°C	17°C	16°C	17°C	16°C	Folkestone	16°C	15°C	17°C	17°C	17°C	Ramsgate	18°C	16°C	17°C	19°C	16°C	Tonbridge	17°C	15°C	17°C	19°C	18°C
Dartford	18°C	17°C	18°C	19°C	18°C	Gillingham	17°C	17°C	16°C	17°C	16°C	Rochester	17°C	17°C	16°C	17°C	16°C	Tun Wells	17°C	15°C	17°C	19°C	18°C

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Fearne Cotton and Holly Willoughby by visit Bluewater! **WIN! a signed copy of their new book**

RADIO 1's Fearne Cotton and Holly Willoughby, most commonly known as the co-presenter on ITV1's This Morning, will be making the very first stop of their limited tour at Waterstones, Bluewater, Europe's leading retail and leisure destination.

The pair will be signing copies of their new book, *The Best Friends' Guide to Life* on Wednesday, October 13, from 5.30pm.

Real life best-friends, Fearne and Holly, share their views, opinions and plenty of funny and personal stories in this aspirational lifestyle guide for women.

Fearne describes how they came up with the idea: "We thought there was a guide missing out there for people around our age or a bit younger, who need advice on different things. I don't think there are any limits for girls these days and that's what this book is all about."



The new book draws on their own experiences in life, love, friendship and work; both are team captains on ITV2 *Celebrity Juice* and each have their own fashion ranges for very.co.uk.

The Best Friends Guide to Life is packed with exclusive photos of the girls (from past to present), lots of which have never been seen before. Plus there is an added bonus of more than 20 exclusive illustrations especially created by Fearne.

For your chance to win one of 15 signed copies of *The Best Friends' Guide to Life*, £16.99, published by Vermilion simply answer the following question:

Q: What TV show is both Holly and Fearne team captains on?

A: I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Here

B: ITV2 *Celebrity Juice*

C: Big Brother

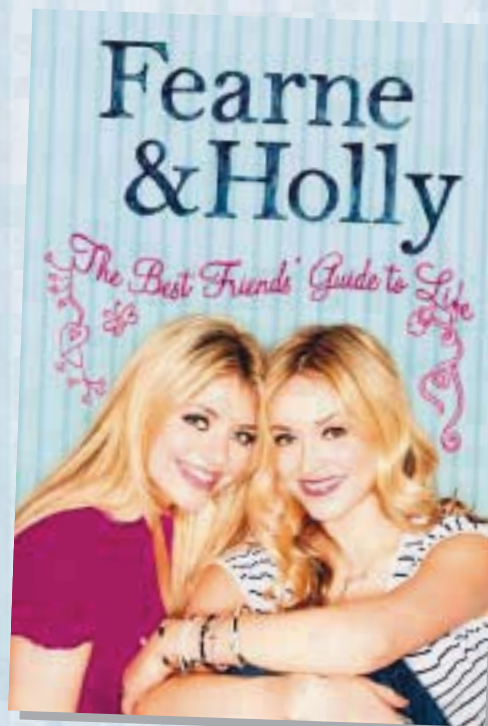
Send your answers on a postcard to Fearne and Holly Competition, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR.

The closing date is Monday, October 11, 2010.

No purchase necessary.

For our full Ts&Cs please visit www.kentnews.co.uk, or for a posted copy call 01303 817073. If you do not wish to receive any literature please write 'no literature' on your entry.

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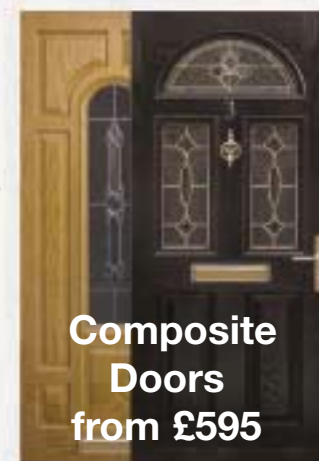
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Oscar hopeful Reynolds goes underground in this dark thriller

■ BY DAMON SMITH

FILM-MAKING is a collaborative process, pooling the creativity and imagination of dozens, sometimes hundreds, of individuals behind of and in front of the cameras.

Rodrigo Cortes's thriller goes back to basics and daringly asks us to invest all of our emotions in just one character who spends the entire film on screen trapped in a single, cramped location.

Not since Sam Rockwell discovered the terrifying secrets of *Moon* or Tom Hanks found himself a *Cast Away* with only a volleyball for company, has the entire weight of a film rested on one actor's shoulders.

Hollywood hunk Ryan Reynolds had a glorious 2009, paired with Sandra Bullock in the romantic comedy *The Proposal*.

Now, he is very much on his own in *Buried*, which traps the actor inside a wooden coffin deep underground for 94 nail-biting minutes.

Cortes doesn't allow his camera to escape from the subterranean prison for a single second – no flashbacks, no fleeting glimpses of the sunshine above the tomb.

Instead, the camera cleverly moves around the space over Reynolds's dirty, sweat-drenched body, lit by the flickers of a cigarette lighter or the beam of a torch.

When darkness occasionally prevails, we can still hear his rapid breathing and his clothes catching on splinters of wood.

Viewers who suffer from claustrophobia should look away...

Truck driver Paul Conroy (Reynolds) is attacked during a convoy run in Iraq and wakes inside a crudely-constructed coffin.

With no obvious way out, Paul discovers a mobile phone with a weak signal and hurriedly calls for help, telling the 911 operator, "I don't know what's going on. I'm buried in a box!"

As anxiety takes hold in the cramped con-



Picture: PA Photo/Icon Film

TRAPPED: Ryan Reynolds is kidnap victim Paul Conroy, the only character seen on screen in *Buried*, which is set in a makeshift coffin deep underground

finer of his prison, Paul discovers that terrorists have placed him in the box and want a five million dollar ransom.

The terrorist leader, Jabir (Jose Luis Garcia-Perez), is adamant: For Paul to see his wife Linda (Samantha Mathis) again, he must pay up.

Dan Brenner (Robert Paterson), an officer trained in hostage negotiation, and trucking company rep Alan Davenport (Stephen Tobolowsky) seem powerless to help.

The prospects look bleak.

Buried wrings every last drop of tension from a simple dramatic set-up, making excellent use of the natural lighting to capture Paul's mounting distress.

There are whispers of a possible Oscar nomination for Reynolds for his overwrought theatrics.

But while he certainly holds our attention, the actor doesn't have the emotional range to take us to the edge with his stricken character

and he doesn't always earn our sympathy, culminating in a skin-crawling interlude involving an unexpected visitor to the box.

Occasional deviations from logic – the final power bar on Paul's mobile phone lasts much longer than expected – feel like a bit of a cheat.

BURIED 
Certificate 15



INSPIRATIONAL: Richard Armstrong as Lucas North, one of the agents in *Spooks*



YOUR TV REVIEW **SPOOKS:** BBC1, 9pm, Monday, **GENIUS:** BBC2, 10pm, Monday

■ BY JENNY ARMSTRONG

ALTHOUGH usually a fan of this high-action spy thriller, the newest series has not lived up to my expectations.

As *Spooks* is a programme with a high character turnover, this is not entirely unexpected. *Spooks*' peaks thus far have been Series 1 and 4. The first series took many by surprise in 2002, with its timely portrayal of MI5 agents battling the forces of evil on British home soil.

Series 4 proved to be eerily prophetic in filming an episode of a terrorist group bombing London just before the real thing happened.

At its best, *Spooks* is full of nail-biting jeopardy, believable plots, inspirational characters and rides the zeitgeist perfectly to bring involving hour-long episodes which would stun any room to silence.

But this season something has

gone wrong. One of the most believable characters, Ros Myers, has gone leaving a very small cast indeed. The first episode was passable, but involved far more unrequited love than a British spy drama needs.

And the second episode was very light on real plot, instead focusing on various agents' questionable loyalties and back stories rather than letting the action and adventure take hold.

The scriptwriters do not do the programme any favours when interpersonal love affairs get in the way of the real queen and country action stuff, which is what anyone who watches a spy show really wants.

There is one character who is still managing to be a proper spy – as yet minor character Dimitri Levendis, an

ex-SBS man who is amusing, relaxed and uncomplicated. Hopefully he will play a more major role in the episodes to come and leave the others to their tortuous intrigues.

TO prevent drivers falling asleep at the wheel, put a wasp in every car. This is one of the many ideas submitted for the new series of *Genius*, in which the eccentric musings of the great British public are given a thorough examination before being judged either genius or barmy. television series and some of the teething problems have been ironed out. It is livelier, more fun, more quirky and less awkward. The only disappointment is that the geniuses who were previously used as judges have been replaced by the comedy personalities that pervade all other television.

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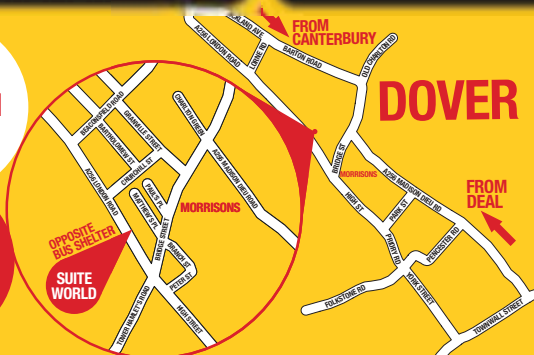
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yourmusic

Synth pop stars to play classics



HUMAN LEAGUE: Philip Oakey, Susan Ann Sulley, and Joanne Catherall

■ BY SIMON ROBINSON

SYNTH pop legends The Human League will play a pre-Christmas gig in Kent.

The 1980s chartoppers will perform at Folkestone Leas Cliff Hall on Monday, December 6.

Fans can expect frontman Philip Oakey and band to get through all their classic hits, including Don't You Want Me, Love Action, The Sound of the Crowd, Mirror Man.

A Leas Hall spokesman said the band, who are currently working on their 10th studio album, were trendsetters.

They said: "Synth pop's first international superstars, the Human League were among the most innovative bands to break into the pop mainstream on a wave of synthesizers and electronic rhythms."

The seafront venue will play host to a number of top musical nights before the big 80s electro throwback, starting on Friday, October 29, with Abba tribute act Abba Mania.

The programme promises a show time of two hours and 15 minutes, giving the band ample time to churn out all of Benny and Bjorn's most popular timeless tracks.

The setlist will no doubt include the likes of Mamma Mia, Voulez Vous, Dancing Queen, The Winner Takes It All, Super Trooper, and many more.

According to the Leas Cliff Hall official website, Abba Mania, accepted as the world's number one touring Abba production, 'celebrates Abba's music in a respectful and enjoyable way'.

Should be a cracking night.

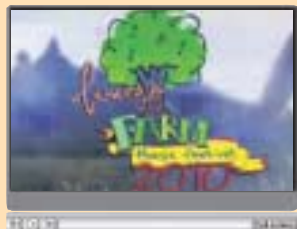
The tribute trend continues on Saturday, October 30, when AC/DC cover band Livewire perform tracks such as To Hell, Thunderstruck and Back In Black.

Support on the night comes from Thin Lizzy tribute act Limehouse Lizzy.

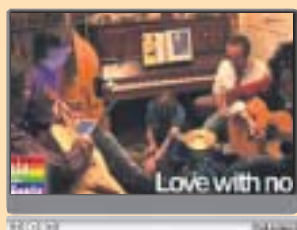
Pop starlet Ellie Goulding will

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MUSIC FESTIVAL: A montage from this year's Lounge on the Farm



BAND PRACTICE: Zinta Egle and her band play Love With No Love



TOP FIVE KENT GIGS

- 1 Flipswitch - 9/10 Maidens Head in Canterbury
- 2 Vivid Nation - 11/10 The Lanterns, Folkestone
- 3 Third Place Victory - 15/10 Westcoast Bar, Margate
- 4 Save Target As - 16/10 Astor Theatre, Deal
- 5 Promise Me Tomorrow - 23/10 The Railway, Deal

be at the Folkestone venue on Wednesday, November 17, as part of her biggest UK tour to date.

The infectious 23-year-old, who shot to fame with the release of her debut album Lights, has enjoyed chart success with breakthrough single Starry Eyes, as well as Guns and Horses, Under the Sheets and The Writer.

Tickets will sell out fast.

For more information on all these nights and to book tickets visit www.leascliffhall.org.uk.



GODDESSES OF THE FLESH: The stunning Diosas de Carne at the Club Tropicana near Havana will get you into the rhythm of Cuba

yourgetaways

See Castro's crazy Cuba while there's still time

■ BY CORDELIA O'NEILL

IT'S a sweltering evening and through the darkness, musicians drum an intoxicating salsa rhythm.

Tall palm trees seemingly swing in time as I sip my glass of seven-year-old rum and prepare for a night to remember.

Suddenly the spotlight swings to the two stages, and a flock of girls – the so-called Diosas de Carne, Goddesses of the Flesh – descend from trees in time to the music.

The music picks up, lights flash on sequined and feathered costumes, and the Club Tropicana kicks off another long Havana night.

Launched in 1939 at the Villa Mina, a sprawling six-acre estate on the outskirts of the city, this floor show inspired copycat cabaret in Paris, Las Vegas and New York, and has drawn countless tourists to Cuba's capital for nights of decadence, drama and daiquiris.

Very little is new in Cuba – from Spanish colonial style townhouses to the classic American cars – Chevrolets, Buicks and Cadillacs.

One of the best places to view this irrepressible capital is from the top of the 137m high memorial to the island's patriot, Jose Marti.

A slow lift takes you to the top of the obelisk, topped with a statue of the poet, journalist and leader of the 1895 rebellion against Spanish rule.

Having paid my respects, I decide to worship the local culture in a slightly less worthy way, and slip into my gold bikini, don a pair of oversized sunglasses and make for the rooftop pool of my hotel – the neoclassical Saratoga.

FACT FILE: CUBA

Time difference	- Five hours (GMT)
Capital	Havana
Language	Spanish
Population	11,300,000
Currency	Cuban pesos



Also worth seeing is the Hotel Nacional de Cuba – the flagship hotel and the hangout of Errol Flynn, Marlon Brando and novelist Ernest Hemingway in glitzy times.

One peculiarity of the country is the dual currency system: tourists use a convertible peso (introduced in 2005 to eradicate the US dollar) worth nearly 25 times more than the non-convertible peso for native Cubans.

Castro, whose rule was described by one guide as "like having a very strict father", is a looming presence. More human aspects of revolutionary life are visible in his birthplace outside the tiny village of Biran, about 750km east of Havana.

Seven Castro siblings grew up here in a comfortably-off family. Castro's father Angel, an immigrant from Spain, owned a farm and expanded with a general store, telegraph room, school, hotel and mini

cock-fighting stadium.

Choose your souvenirs carefully. My favourite place to shop was Perfumeria Habana 1791 – a vintage-style perfumery where trainees mix a scent using notes including citrus, jasmine, rose, lavender and tobacco.

If you want cigars, don't buy a box on street corners, lest they are rolled-up banana leaves, and keep receipts for customs officials.

But Havana is only a part of Cuba's heritage. For a traditional Caribbean break, we headed for Cayo Saetia, off Guardalavaca.

In Cuba, a sea-change is coming. Since Fidel Castro handed over to his brother in 2006, the island has opened itself to the West, and President Obama's election could end the ban on visitors from the US.

Enjoy this crazy, contradictory country before too many Americans arrive.

Cordelia O'Neill was a guest of Thomson Holidays (0871 231 5595 and thomson.co.uk), which offers twin-centre 11-night stays on the resort of Guardalavaca and Havana from £1,876, including return flights with Thomson Airways to Holguin. Internal flights by Air Cubana. With departures only ex-Gatwick and Manchester, the programme runs all year round.

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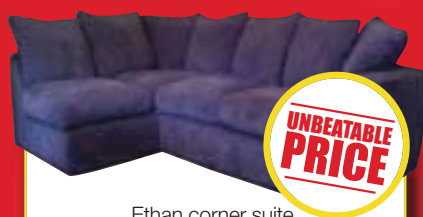
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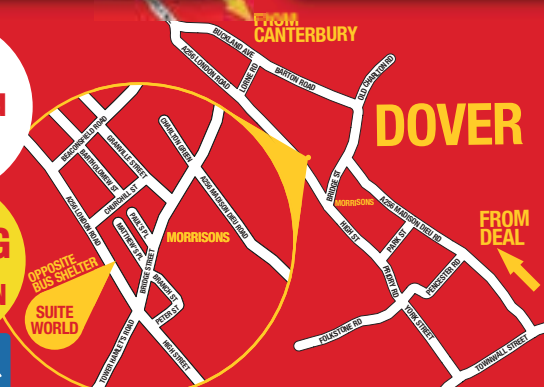


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MOTORS NEWS



Focus is all about style for the third generation

FORD has produced a dramatic third generation Focus after criticism that the current version betrayed the innovative styling of the original.

A sporty five-door hatchback will be the mainstay of the new range, due early next year, but there is also a classy estate.

The newcomer is touted as a true 'world car' for Ford, rather than a specifically European one, and features a high quality interior in line with Ford's intention to move upmarket in search of profitability and image rather than volume.



Kia bring their 'Mondeo masher' to the sector

AMBITIOUS Kia intends to muscle in on the crowded 'D segment' or Mondeo sector of the motor market with a striking all-new model – the Optima.

If looks are anything to go by, this will be a classy upgrade from the woeful Magentis with which the Korean marque hoped and failed to gain a foothold in this arena.

The newcomer also has an eye on the tax bill faced by 'company car man' – it will use low emission economic drivetrains. It arrives in mid to late 2011.



Baby Mazda's upgrade

MAZDA has upgraded its clever and smart little three and five-door Mazda2 supermini just three years after launch.

There are cosmetic changes on the outside, but it is enhanced cabin quality and feel that is most welcome; in the search for an eco-friendly lightweight design, one felt that too many corners were cut with the interior, but that has been righted.

Powertrains have also been upgraded to comply with tougher EU emissions regulations and Mazda says bodyshell and suspension updates provide more comfort and smoothness.



STILL GOING STRONG: VW's Golf Blue Motion is the German carmaker's green offering, but uses a conventional diesel engine and it just as effective as its various hybrid rivals

Green Golf showing that 'old' technology still lives

ROAD TEST GOLF BLUEMOTION

BY STEVE LOADER

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Green rating	★★★★★

range; it is a green car that can be driven with verve. Nor does the BlueMotion dither on bends due to poor grip from its energy-saving, low-rolling resistance tyres.

And there is magic elsewhere, notably from a smooth stop/start system that cuts and then automatically re-starts the engine when halted by traffic lights, a jam or other delay.

The engine is also burdened less by the alternator – energy normally lost through braking is recovered to top-up the battery.

Weight and wind resistance have been shaved too and this paragon of eco-motoring actually looks as mean as some sportier Golf models, while sharing their excellent refinement and an interior that is robust, classy and well-arranged without being ostentatious.

Admittedly, Golfs are not cheap and our five-door BlueMotion test car is £18,715 against £17,895 for the 'standard' 1.6 S diesel closest to it in the range.

That car will cost you £20 a year in road tax after year one of ownership and averages about 10mpg less than its green sister, but you can see from the above where that extra £800 or so has been spent – and it is a lower premium than you will see on some other eco rivals.



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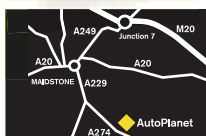
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GHIA 5DR (2005 - 2008) 33159 MILES	£8399
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[CLIMATE] (2005 - 2008) 55329 MILES	£5999
07 FORD FIESTA DIESEL HATCHBACK 1.4 TDCI	
STYLE 5DR [CLIMATE] (2006 - 2008) 51146 MILES	£6999
10 FORD FIESTA HATCHBACK 1.25 EDGE 3DR (2009 -) 12988 MILES	£9799
57 FORD FIESTA 1.25 ZETEC 3DR [CLIMATE] 33200 MILES	£5499
06 FORD FIESTA 1.25 ZETEC 5DR [CLIMATE] 25416 MILES	£5799
59 FORD FIESTA PETROL HATCHBACK EDGE (2010.5)	
3 DR 1.25 60PS STAGE V (-) 13729 MILES	£7999
06 FORD FIESTA 1.4 STYLE 5DR [CLIMATE] 47275 MILES	£5499
07 FORD FIESTA 1.4 ZETEC 5DR [CLIMATE] 44000 MILES	£4999
FOCUS	
52 FORD FOCUS 1.8 ZETEC 5DR 91000 MILES	£3499
56 FORD FOCUS DIESEL ESTATE 1.6 TDCI LX 5DR	
[110] [EURO 4] (2005 - 2007) 57484 MILES	£6999
07 FORD FOCUS SALOON 1.6 GHIA 4DR (2005 - 2007) 15841 MILES	£8599
07 FORD FOCUS HATCHBACK 1.8 ZETEC 3DR	
[CLIMATE PACK] (2006 - 2007) 62000 MILES	£6399
06 FORD FOCUS HATCH 1.6 LX 5DR [115] (2005 - 2007) 30069 MILES	£7199
06 FORD FOCUS HATCHBACK 2.0 ZETEC 5DR	
[CLIMATE PACK] (2005 - 2007) 67644 MILES	£6999
06 FORD FOCUS ESTATE 1.6 ZETEC 5DR	
[CLIMATE PACK] (2005 - 2007) 82381 MILES	£5999
07 FORD FOCUS DIESEL HATCHBACK 2.0 TDCI	
TITANIUM 5DR [EURO 4] (2005 - 2007) 77577 MILES	£7899
07 FORD FOCUS HATCH 1.6 LX 5DR AUTO (2005 - 2007) 17733 MILES	£7199
58 FORD FOCUS 1.6 ZETEC 5DR 14198 MILES	£9499
59 FORD FOCUS DIESEL HATCHBACK 1.8 TDCI ZETEC	
5 DR (2008 - 2009) 27135 MILES	£11799
55 FORD FOCUS PETROL HATCHBACK ZETEC (2005)	
5 DR 2.0 DURATEC 145 PS STA 75815 MILES	£5999
09 FORD FOCUS 1.6 TDCI ZETEC 5DR [110] [DPF] 14362 MILES	£1499
03 FORD FOCUS 1.8 ZETEC 5DR 132000 MILES	£1499
53 FORD FOCUS 1.6 EDGE 5DR 55500 MILES	£3999
08 FORD FOCUS 2.5 ST-3 3DR 21661 MILES	£12999
FUSION	
03 FORD FUSION 1.4 2 5DR 27009 MILES	£3999
54 FORD FUSION ESTATE 1.6 2 5DR (2002 - 2005) 37852 MILES	£5599
08 FORD FUSION ESTATE 1.4 ZETEC 5DR [CLIMATE]	
(2005 -) 17657 MILES	£7999
KA	
59 FORD KA 1.2 STUDIO 3DR 3092 MILES	£6999
59 FORD KA 1.2 STUDIO 3DR 12002 MILES	£6999
56 FORD KA HATCH 1.3i STYLE [70] 3DR (2002 - 2008) 24727 MILES	£3999
58 FORD KA HATCHBACK 1.3i ZETEC [70] 3DR	
[CLIMATE] (2006 - 2008) 26945 MILES	£5999
54 FORD KA 1.3i STYLE [70] 3DR 34011 MILES	£2499
56 FORD KA 1.3i STYLE [70] 3DR [CLIMATE] 29308 MILES	£3999
GALAXY	
02 FORD GALAXY DIESEL ESTATE 1.9 TD GHIA 5DR [130 PS]	
(2002 - 2006) 99000 MILES	£3999
MONDEO	
56 FORD MONDEO 1.8 LX 5DR 47343 MILES	£2999
58 FORD MONDEO DIESEL HATCH 2.0 TDCI ZETEC	
5DR [140] AUTO (2008 - 2010) 33332 MILES	£12499
55 FORD MONDEO SALOON 2.0 ZETEC 4DR (2005 - 2007) 94963 MILES	£5299
57 FORD MONDEO SALOON 1.8 ZETEC 4DR (2005 - 2007) 72011 MILES	£9599
07 FORD MONDEO SALOON 2.0 ZETEC 4DR (2007 - 2010) 82468 MILES	£8499
OTHERS	
56 MERCEDES-BENZ R CLASS R320 CDI SPORT 5DR AUTO 26088 MILES	£19999
06 BMW 1 SERIES 120D SE 5DR 53000 MILES	£9999
06 MINI COOPER 1.6 3DR 9929 MILES	£11499
56 VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2i 16V SXi+ [80] 3DR 30000 MILES	£4999
57 TOYOTA YARIS 1.4 D-4D SR 3DR 4998 MILES	£6999
57 VAUXHALL ASTRA SPORT HATCH 2.0T 16V VXR 3DR	
(2005 -) 30170 MILES	£11999
04 VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2i 16V ENERGY 3DR EASYTRONIC 61700 MILES	£3499
06 BMW 1 SERIES 120D SE 5DR 53000 MILES	£9999
57 ALFA ROMEO 159 SALOON 1.8 MPI TURISMO 4DR	
(2007 - 2009) 30409 MILES	£8599
05 PEUGEOT 307 1.6 HDI 110 S [AC] 5DR 11000 MILES	£3399
58 VAUXHALL AGILA 1.2i 16V DESIGN [80] 5DR 30488 MILES	£4799
57 MITSUBISHI COLT HATCH 1.5 C23 5DR (2006 - 2008) 40159 MILES	£5499
56 VAUXHALL CORSA 1.4i 16V CLUB 3DR AUTO [AC] 14720 MILES	£7799
53 RENAULT MEGANE SCENIC 1.6 VVT DYNAMIQUE 5DR 72223 MILES	£3699
06 RENAULT MEGANE SCENIC 2.0 16V SPORT ALIZE 5DR 80932 MILES	£1999

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159, 1.8 MPI TURISMO (750 MINIMUM PX ALLOWANCE), 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking cruise control electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser metallic paint power fold mirrors multiple airbags power steering trip computer twin airbags remote central locking quickclear windscreen body coloured bumpers, black & red leather, 30061 miles, £8999, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

159, 2.4 JTDm LUSO, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player diesel electric windows immobiliser metallic paint power steering remote central locking remote audio controls, black, 28347 miles, £12000, Ashford, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

159, 2.4 JTDm LUSO, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player diesel electric windows immobiliser metallic paint power steering remote central locking remote audio controls, black, 28347 miles, £12000, Ashford, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

159, 1.8 MPI TURISMO (750 MINIMUM PX ALLOWANCE), 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking cruise control electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser metallic paint power fold mirrors multiple airbags power steering trip computer twin airbags remote central locking quickclear windscreen body coloured bumpers, black & red leather, 30061 miles, £8999, Ashford, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

159, 2.4 JTDm LUSO, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player diesel electric windows immobiliser metallic paint power steering remote central locking remote audio controls, black, 28347 miles, £12000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

159, 1.8 MPI TURISMO (750 MINIMUM PX ALLOWANCE), 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking cruise control electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser metallic paint power fold mirrors multiple airbags bumpers, black & red leather, 30061 miles, £8999, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

BRERA, 2.4 JTDm SV, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player cruise control diesel electric windows immobiliser metallic paint leather interior multiple airbags power steering trip computer remote central locking remote audio controls, silver, 28347 miles, £14000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

BRERA, 2.4 JTDm SV, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player cruise control diesel electric windows immobiliser metallic paint leather interior multiple airbags power steering trip computer remote central locking remote audio controls, silver, 28347 miles, £14000, Ashford, 0844 856 5918 (TRADE)

BRERA, 2.4 JTDm SV, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player cruise control diesel electric windows immobiliser metallic paint leather interior multiple airbags power steering trip computer remote central locking remote audio controls, silver, 28347 miles, £14000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

GT, Jtdm 16v Bertone Blackline, g577hm, air con, climate control, full leather, cd player, mp3 player, radio, steering wheel audio controls, cruise control, stability control, electric front windows, electric mirrors, abs, multiple airbags, anti-theft system, remote central locking, locking wheel nuts, centre armrest, height adjustable seat, adjustable 90800 miles, £8648, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

CITROEN

C3 PICASSO, 2 registered keepers remote central locking electric windows electric mirrors abs air con climate control passenger airbag cruise control immobiliser alloy wheels rear parking sensors roof rails service history, obsidian black, 11000 miles, £10995, Ashford, 01233 640100 (TRADE)

C3 PLURIEL, remote central locking electric windows electric sunroof abs air con passenger airbag full leather interior alloy wheels service history, obsidian black, 4000 miles, £11495, Ashford, 01233 640100 (TRADE)

C4, 5, gk59ft0, 1 registered keeper franchise approved remote central locking electric windows electric mirrors abs traction control air conditioning drivers airbag passenger airbag power steering side airbags cruise control immobiliser alloy wheels bluetooth hands freekit, blue, 9000 miles, £11995, Folkestone, 01303 245 588 (TRADE)

C4, 5, gk10xwm, central locking remote central locking front electric windows abs air passenger airbag cruise control immobiliser, silver, 4500 miles, £12895, Ashford, 01233 640100 (TRADE)

C4, 16V VTI SX, 2008, abs brakes air con alarm fitted alloys automatic cd player remote audio controls, grey metallic, 4000 miles, £9000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

C4, 16v, 2008, abs brakes alarm fitted cd player electric windows front fog lights heated seats multiple airbags, black, 55 miles, £20600, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

C4, 16v, 2008, central locking diesel electric windows multi cd player power fold mirrors, black, 8450 miles, £20000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

C4, 16v, 2008, abs brakes cd player central locking, black, 50 miles, £20500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

C4, 2.0VRX AUTO, 2006, abs brakes alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking climate control cruise control electric windows full service history metallic paint leather interior, blue, 20189 miles, £6500, Maidstone, 08448 759296 (TRADE)

C4, 16V SX (92), 2006, black, 88810 miles, £4699, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

C4, 1.6, 2008, black, 50 miles, £19000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

C4, 1.6, 2008, blue, 50 miles, £19000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

C4, 1.6, 2008, black, 50 miles, £19000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

C4, 16V SX, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking cruise control drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags power steering, black, 1500 miles, £11000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

C4, 16V VTR Plus, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player cruise control electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint power fold mirrors multiple airbags power controls, grey metallic, 6000 miles, £7000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

C4, vtr plus, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels automatic transmission cd player central locking diesel drivers airbag electric windows steering remote central locking, blue, 44000 miles, £8500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

C4, 16v, 2008, black, 50 miles, £20500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

C4, 16v, 2008, black, 55 miles, £20480, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

C4, 16v, 2008, blue, 55 miles, £20600, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

C4, 16v, 2008, red, 55 miles, £20500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

C4, 1.6, 2008, black, 50 miles, £20000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

C4, 1.6, 2008, black, 50 miles, £19000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

C4, 1.6, 2008, black, 50 miles, £19000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

C4, VTR Plus, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels controls, red metallic, 23000 miles, £7500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

C4, Cool, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player cruise control electric windows front fog lights multiple airbags sports seats trip computer remote central locking isofix child seat points remote audio controls, grey, 11400 miles, £7000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

C4, 1.6 Hdi 110hp VTR Plus, 2005, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels bluetooth car kit cd player climate control diesel electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint power steering trip computer front passenger air bag deactivation switch remote central locking isofix child seat points auto headlights and wipers remote audio controls adjustable steering column heated door mirrors height adj drivers seat, gold, 65000 miles, £5500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

C4, 1.6i 16V SX 5dr Auto Hatch, ly07azc, pas, abs, air conditioning, remote central locking, front electric windows, front fog lights, alloy wheels, radio/cd, trip computer, cruise control, side airbags, electricdoor mirrors, steering wheel rake adjustment, drivers airbag, body coloured bumpers, 3x3 point rear seat belts, full size spare wheel, height adjustable drivers seat, service indicator, audio remote control, front head restraints, cloth seat trim, immobiliser, rear wiper, rear headrests, isofix child seat anchor points, folding rear seats, grey, 26070 miles, £5995, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

C4, SX 16v 5dr, dk58zh, abs, air bag, immobiliser, central locking, remote central locking, air conditioning, cruise control, stereo, electric front windows, trip computer, cd player, electric mirrors, front fog lamps, automatic electric windows, radio, child locks, head restraints, cloth upholstery, isofix, 15" alloys, full size spare wheel, rev counter, height adjustable front seatbelts, illuminated glovebox, body colour door mirrors, front and rear door pockets, height adjustable front headrests, height adjustable headlamps, maintenance indicator, front seatbelt pretensioners with force limiters, variable pas, black panel night illumination, seatbelt warning lamp, oil level gauge, twin sunvisors and covered mirrors + map holder, "guide me home" headlamps, passenger underside drawer, push/pull drawer under lateral and central air vents, drivers side dashboard storage, exterior temperature gauge, tinted windows, multi function steering wheel, split fold rear seat, rear wiper, comfort seats, pack look c4, scented air freshener, 16" radiale alloy wheels, door ajar/boot open warning, outer rear seatbelt force limiters, automatic activation of hazard warning lights, energy absorbing side impact protection, tilt/height adjustable steering wheel, automatic boot locking, boot storage compartments, auto re-lock after 30 secs (when using plug key), interior lights activated when doors unlocked, 3 rear 3 point seatbelts, courtesy light in boot, driver's seat height adjustment, black, 1800 miles, £9995, Bexleyheath, 01222 524 680 (TRADE)

C4, 16v, 2008, blue, 55 miles, £20600, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

C4, 16V VTR Plus, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player cruise control electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint power fold mirrors multiple airbags power controls, grey metallic, 6000 miles, £7000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

C4, vtr plus, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels automatic transmission cd player central locking diesel drivers airbag electric windows steering remote central locking, blue, 44000 miles, £8500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

C4, 16v, 2008, black, 50 miles, £20500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

C4, 16v, 2008, black, 55 miles, £20480, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

C4, 16v, 2008, blue, 55 miles, £20600, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

C4, 16v, 2008, red, 55 miles, £20500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

C4, 1.6, 2008, black, 50 miles, £20000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

C4, 1.6, 2008, black, 50 miles, £19000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

C4, 1.6, 2008, black, 50 miles, £19000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

C4, VTR Plus, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels controls, red metallic, 23000 miles, £7500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

FIESTA, Style Climate Pack, 2008, abs brakes air con alloys electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags single cd player remote central locking, silver, 45075 miles, £5200, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.25 Style (Climate), 2008, abs brakes air con alloys electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags power steering single cd player remote central locking, blazer blue, 42254 miles, £6000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

FIESTA, Style Climate Pack, 2008, abs brakes air con alloys drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags single cd player remote central locking, panther black, 44621 miles, £5200, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.25 Zetec, 2009, abs brakes electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags power steering single cd player remote central locking, silver, 29081 miles, £9000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.4 TDCI STYLE (1000 MINIMUM PART EXCHANGE), 2007, abs brakes air con alarm fitted cd player central locking full service history immobiliser metallic paint remote central locking multi functional tuneport (i-pod and mp3 connection), blue, 51458 miles, £6999, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

FIESTA, Style (Climate), 2008, air con cd player central locking electric windows immobiliser power steering, black, 11186 miles, £7500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

FIESTA, Zetec (Climate), 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags power steering single cd player remote central locking, black, 20500 miles, £6000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.6 TDCI TITANIUM (minimum 1500 PX ALLOWANCE), 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking diesel electric panther black, 19643 miles, £11499, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.6 Titanium TDCi, 2010, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels bluetooth car kit cd player cruise control diesel drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint power steering reverse parking aid traction control trip computer twin airbags curtain airbags front parking remote audio controls, hot magenta, 1806 miles, £13000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 5, ea02vzp, insurance group 6 alloy wheels body coloured bumpers central locking drivers airbag folding rear seats front electric windows front fog lights height adjustable drivers seat immobiliser power steering radio/cd trip computer 2 owners, state blue, 57000 miles, £2183, Crayford, 01322 281525 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 5, pe03thq, insurance group 5 abs air conditioning alarm alloy wheels audio remote control body coloured bumpers drivers airbag electricdoor mirrors folding rear seats front electric windows front fog lights rake adjustment trip computer 2 owners history, metropolis blue, 28000 miles, £4000, Crayford, 01322 281525 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 5, ra57hgm, insurance group 4 abs air conditioning alloy wheels body coloured bumpers drivers airbag electricdoor mirrors folding rear seats front electric windows front fog lights heated door mirrors height adjustable drivers seat immobiliser passenger airbag power steering radio/cd remote central locking trip computer 1 owner history, tango red, 28000 miles, £5483, Crayford, 01322 281525 (TRADE)

FIESTA, Style Climate 16v 3dr, 8046079, air conditioning, power steering, cd player, radio, rear wash/wipe, rear headrests, remote central locking, remote alarm, electric front windows, electric mirrors, height adjustable seat, adjustable steering column, abs, twin air bags, this is just one of seven fiesta's that we are currently offering for sale. please click on the link to our web site to view our current stock. all our vehicles are inspected in our workshop and are prepared to the highest standard. silver, 42900 miles, £4995, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

FIESTA, Style 16v 5dr, 8047079, air conditioning, power steering, remote central locking, remote alarm, electric front windows, rear wash/wipe, rear headrests, height adjustable seat, cloth upholstery, adjustable steering column, cd player, radio, twin air bags, abs, this is just one of seven fiesta's that we are currently offering for sale. please click on the link to our web site to view our current stock. all our vehicles are inspected in our workshop and are prepared to the highest standard. silver, 52100 miles, £4695, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

FIESTA, Finesse 16v 3dr, 7965079, power steering, abs, twin air bags, central locking, rear wash/wipe, rear headrests, height adjustable seat, adjustable steering column, cd player, radio, this is just one of seven fiesta's that we are currently offering for sale. please click on the link to our web site to view our current stock. all our vehicles are inspected in our workshop and are prepared to the highest standard. silver, 48000 miles, £3995, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

FIESTA, Finesse 16v 3dr, 8072079, power steering, abs, twin air bags, cd player, radio, cloth upholstery, rear wash/wipe, rear headrests, height adjustable seat, adjustable steering column, this is just one of seven fiesta's that we are currently offering for sale. please click on the link to our web site to view our current stock. all our vehicles are inspected in our workshop and are prepared to the highest standard. silver, 31100 miles, £3995, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

FIESTA, Finesse 16v 5dr, 8098079, power steering, cd player, radio, twin air bags, central locking, cloth upholstery, rear wash/wipe, rear headrests, height adjustable seat, adjustable steering column, this is just one of seven fiesta's that we are currently offering for sale. please click on the link to our web site to view our current stock. all our vehicles are inspected in our workshop and are prepared to the highest standard. silver, 54700 miles, £3995, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.25 Style + 3dr [82], 35827163, abs, air bag, immobiliser, central locking, remote central locking, power steering, air conditioning, electric front windows, cd player, adjustable steering column, rear headrests, automatic electric windows, radio, folding rear seats, cloth upholstery, isofix, air conditioning, head restraints, height adjustable seat, retractable headrests, multi-function steering wheel, quick-clear screen, side air door mirrors, delay courtesy light heated windscreen, 3 point rear 36123 miles, £7299, Maidstone, 0845 871 5185 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.25 Style Plus 5dr, 35774163, abs, air bag, immobiliser, central locking, remote central locking, power steering, air conditioning, electric front windows, cd player, adjustable steering column, rear headrests, automatic electric windows, radio, folding rear seats, cloth upholstery, isofix, air conditioning, head restraints, height adjustable seat, retractable headrests, trip computer, quick-clear screen, side air bags, twin air bags, pocket, delay courtesy light function, 3 point rear seatbelts x3, auxiliary mirrors, green, 11840 miles, £8800, Maidstone, 0845 871 5185 (TRADE)

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<p>JAZZ, SE, 2005, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels automatic transmission central locking full service history metallic paint power fold mirrors power steering single cd player remote central locking, sirius blue, 51143 miles, £5500, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)</p> <p>JAZZ, 1.4 SE, 2007, abs brakes air con alloys cd player central locking electric windows full service history immobiliser metallic paint mp3 player power fold mirrors single cd player tinted glass tonneau cover twin airbags remote central locking remote audio controls body coloured bumpers rear headrests 3x3 point rear seat belts heated door mirrors height adj drivers seat space saver, sparkle grey, 11065 miles, £8000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)</p> <p>JAZZ, 1.4SE AUTO, 2007, abs brakes air con alarm fitted alloys automatic transmission cd player central locking electric windows full service history immobiliser metallic paint power fold mirrors, blue, 12456 miles, £8000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)</p> <p>JAZZ, 1.4SE AUTO, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking electric windows full service history immobiliser metallic paint power fold mirrors, blue, £2989 miles, £7500, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)</p> <p>JAZZ, 1.4SE AUTO, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels automatic transmission cd player central locking cruise control electric windows full service history immobiliser power fold mirrors, black, 17895 miles, £8500, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)</p> <p>JAZZ, 1.4S, 2003, abs brakes full service history metallic paint, silver, 78996 miles, £4000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)</p> <p>JAZZ, 1.4SE, 2004, abs brakes air conditioning central locking electric windows full service history, blue, 58798 miles, £4500, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)</p> <p>JAZZ, ES, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights full service history metallic paint multiple airbags power steering single cd player traction control trip computer remote central locking 3x3 point rear seat belts height adj drivers seat, pink, 26011 miles, £9495, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)</p>	<p>S-TYPE, V8 R(Euro 4), 2006, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels automatic transmission cd player central locking electric windows full service history immobiliser metallic paint mp3 player power fold mirrors single cd player navigation, silver, 27527 miles, £17000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)</p> <p>S-TYPE, V8 SE Auto, 2003, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels automatic transmission central locking climate control cruise control drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser leather interior multiple airbags power fold mirrors power steering reverse parking aid, midnight, 44500 miles, £8000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)</p> <p>S-TYPE, V6 SE Auto, 2004, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels automatic transmission central locking climate control cruise control drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser leather interior multiple airbags power steering satellite navigation, pacific blue, 54700 miles, £8500, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)</p> <p>S-TYPE, V6 SE Auto, 2006, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels automatic transmission cd player central locking climate control cruise control drivers airbag electric windows heated seats immobiliser leather interior multiple airbags power steering satellite navigation, green, 61000 miles, £13000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)</p> <p>S-TYPE, V6 SE, 2004, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels automatic transmission cd player central locking climate control cruise control drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser leather interior multiple airbags power steering, metallic pacific blue, 62700 miles, £8000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)</p> <p>X-TYPE, SE, 2009, abs brakes air con alarm fitted alloys bluetooth car kit central locking climate control cruise control diesel electric windows front fog lights full service history heated seats metallic paint leather interior power steering satellite navigation traction control remote central locking auto headlights and wipers quickclear windscreen remote audio controls, glacier blue with charcoal leather, 10965 miles, £19990, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)</p>	<p>CARENS, 2.0 TD Sr, 2008, blue, 164 miles, £16000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)</p> <p>CARENS, GS (7 Seat), 2009, silver, 33322 miles, £7000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)</p> <p>CARENS, 2.0 GS 7 SEATER, 2009, abs brakes air con alloys cd player electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags remote central locking, silver, 33000 miles, £8000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)</p> <p>CARENS, 2.0, 2008, abs brakes alarm fitted cd player central locking diesel drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser, red, 44 miles, £16200, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)</p> <p>CEED, 2.0, 2008, abs brakes cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser, silver, 55 miles, £16750, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)</p> <p>CEED, 2.0, 2008, black, 55 miles, £16750, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)</p> <p>CEED, 2.0, 2008, red, 55 miles, £16750, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)</p> <p>CEED, 2.0 CRDi Sport, 2008, abs brakes alarm fitted cd player central locking climate control drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser, silver, 55 miles, £16700, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)</p> <p>CEED, 2.0, 2008, blue, 55 miles, £16600, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)</p> <p>CEED, 2.0, 2008, black, 55 miles, £16500, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)</p> <p>RIO, LE, 2005, abs brakes air con alarm fitted alloys cd player electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering trip computer remote central locking isofix child seat points remote audio controls, blue metallic, 41600 miles, £2500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)</p> <p>RIO, LE, 2005, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering trip computer remote central locking isofix child seat points remote audio controls, blue metallic, 41600 miles, £2500, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)</p>	<p>DEFENDER, 90 TD Hard Top ROW, rb53kdv, power steering, tow pack, radio cassette, rear wash/wipe, 4x4, row spec 300 tdi hard top. road tax (plg) is £205 per year. price is £9, 995 + £1, 749.13 vat = £11, 744.13 total, white, 79000 miles, £9995, Staplehurst, 01580 890333 (TRADE)</p> <p>DEFENDER, 90 TD5 Pick Up 49 000 mls, dx54ubo, power steering, tow pack, 4x4, fitted with for williams canopy, price is +vat. road tax (lgv) is £200 per year. tonga green metallic, 49000 miles, £10995, Staplehurst, 01580 890333 (TRADE)</p> <p>DEFENDER, 110 TDi Camper or Ambulance 22 000 mls, m343ent, remote alarm, power steering, side steps, 4x4, owned from new by st Johns ambulance and only 22, 200 miles, all ambulance kit removed by them and now ideal for refit for overland or camper use. false floor could easily be removed to fit second row of seats as in standard station wagons. white, £12995, Staplehurst, 01580 890333 (TRADE)</p> <p>DEFENDER, 90 TD5 Station Wagon 69 000 mls, w462nnt, remote alarm, cloth upholstery, 7 seater, tow pack, sunroof, 4x4, side steps, 7 seater. road tax (plg) is £205 per year. green, 69000 miles, £10995, Staplehurst, 01580 890333 (TRADE)</p> <p>DEFENDER, 90 TD5 County Hard Top, cx53zbg, remote alarm, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, power steering, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, tow pack, electric windows, alloy wheels, 4x4, side steps. road tax (lgv) is £200 per year. price is £11, 495 + £2, 011 vat = £13, 506.63 total. silver, 72000 miles, £11495, Staplehurst, 01580 890333 (TRADE)</p> <p>DEFENDER, 110 TD5 Hard Top, x904baa, tow pack, power steering, cloth upholstery, sunroof, cd player, 4x4, no vat. road tax (plg) is £205 per year. green, 70000 miles, £9695, Staplehurst, 01580 890333 (TRADE)</p> <p>DEFENDER, 110 TD5 County Station Wagon 46 000 mls, gv53slu, half leather, remote central locking, remote alarm, power steering, quick-clear screen, heated seats, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, tow pack, electric front windows, alloy wheels, 4x4, side steps, 9 seater. road tax (diesel car) is £245.00 per year. bonatti grey, 46000 miles, £16995, Staplehurst, 01580 890333 (TRADE)</p>	<p>EVORA, 3.5 V6 SPORT PACK - SPORTS RAT, 2010, abs brakes alloys cd player electric windows immobiliser sports seats xenon headlamps remote central locking, ardent red, 900 miles, £52000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)</p> <p>EXIGE, 1.8 S Performance Touring, 2009, abs brakes alloy wheels electric windows front fog lights immobiliser power steering sports seats, carbon grey, 6676 miles, £35000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)</p> <p>EXIGE, 1.8 S Touring, 2009, abs brakes alloy wheels cd player central locking electric windows immobiliser power steering twin airbags, persian blue, 7706 miles, £33000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)</p>	<p>2, SPORT, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloys central locking electric windows full service history immobiliser metallic paint sports seats, spirited green, 5000 miles, £10500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)</p> <p>2, SPORT, 2007, abs brakes cd player central locking electric windows power steering, sunlight silver, 48563 miles, £8000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)</p> <p>2, 1.3 TS 5DR, 2007, abs brakes alarm fitted electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags single cd player remote central locking isofix child seat points body coloured bumpers rear headrests 3x3 point rear seat belts height adj drivers seat space saver spare wheel, blue, 16806 miles, £6450, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)</p>	<p>MX-5, 1.8, 2005, abs brakes alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking electric windows immobiliser power steering remote central locking isofix child seat points heated door mirrors space saver spare wheel, black, 43504 miles, £6500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)</p> <p>MX-5, 1.8i SE, 2006, abs brakes alloys cd player electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint twin airbags front passenger air bag deactivation switch remote central locking remote audio controls, silver, 21000 miles, £10000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)</p> <p>MX-5, 1.8, 2007, abs brakes alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking diesel drivers airbag immobiliser leather interior multiple airbags power steering single cd player sports seats tinted glass trip computer twin airbags remote central locking, black, 27363 miles, £9000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)</p>	<p>MX-5, 2.0i Sport Roadster, 2007, abs brakes air con alarm fitted alloys cd player central locking electric windows heated seats immobiliser leather interior sports seats twin airbags, black, 19276 miles, £11000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)</p> <p>MX-5, 2.0 SPORT 2DR, 2006, abs brakes alarm fitted alloys cd player central locking climate control electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser leather interior sports seats remote central locking, silver, 9970 miles, £11000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)</p> <p>MX-5, 2.0i SPORT 2DR, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking climate control drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights full service history heated seats immobiliser metallic paint leather interior sports seats traction control remote central locking, green, 6279 miles, £14000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)</p>



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2002 02 Reg SAAB 9-5 2.3HOT Aero , 4 Doors, Automatic, Saloon, Petrol,77,817 miles, Metallic Grey, 3 Owners, Radio/CD, Rear headrests, Steering wheel reach adjustment, 3x3 point rear seat belts, Cruise control, Steering wheel rake adjustment, Alloy wheels, Immobiliser, Side airbags, Full Electric Pack, Electrically adjustable drivers seat, Rear electric windows, ABS, Electrically adjustable passenger seat, Sports seats, Isofix child seat anchor points, Front fog lights, Reverse parking aid, Remote central locking, Trip computer, Alarm, Body coloured bumpers, Headlight washers, Traction control, PAS, Heated front seat.**£4,195**

2001 Y Reg SAAB 9-5 2.0T SE , 102,941 miles, 4 Doors, Automatic, Saloon, Petrol, Metallic Grey, 4 Owners, Heated door mirrors, ABS, Radio/CD, Rear headrests, Cruise control, Folding rear seats, Alloy wheels, Immobiliser, Side airbags, Leather upholstery, Front electric windows, Electric door mirrors, Rear electric windows, Remote central locking, Drivers airbag, Trip computer, Leather seat trim, Air conditioning, Radio/Cassette, Traction control, Body coloured bumpers, PAS, Climate Control, Service indicator, Electric mirrors, Remote locking.....**NOW £2,795**

2000 W Reg SAAB 9-3 2.0T , 5 Doors, Manual, Hatchback, Petrol, 70,471 miles, Metallic RED, 2 Owners, Central locking, Folding rear seats, Trip computer, Passenger airbag, Steering wheel reach adjustment, Cloth upholstery, Part Service History, Child locks, CD, Immobiliser, Side airbags, Front electric windows, Electric door mirrors, Rear electric windows, ABS, Headlight washers, Body coloured bumpers, PAS, Radio/Cassette, Air conditioning, Service indicator.....**£2,495**

R Reg SAAB 9-3 2.0i , 5 Doors, Manual, Hatchback, Petrol, 1998, 66,678 miles, Black, 1 Owner, Rear wiper, Trip computer, Cloth upholstery, Immobiliser, Part Service History, Remote locking, Service indicator, Electric door mirrors, ABS, Adjustable seats, Adjustable steering column/wheel, Air conditioning, Alloy wheels, Anti theft system, CD, Central locking, Electric mirrors, Electric windows, Foglights, Head restraints, Headlight washers, Heated seats, Metallic paintwork, Passenger airbag, Power assisted steering, Rear armrest, Side airbags, Steel wheels, Sunroof, Tinted glass, Wheel trims.....**NOW £1,695**

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2007/07 PLATE MAZDA 6 2.0TD 143 TS 5 DOOR HATCHBACK

Ocean blue met-black cloth interior-aircon-6 speed manual-e/w-alloys-multi air bags-electric sunroof-c/c-bose c/d entertainment system-one owner from new and with a f/h and good fuel economy. **£5995**

07/57 PLATE MITSUBISHI OUTLANDER ELEGANCE DI-D 7 SEATER

Stardust met silver-black leather-aircon-alloys-e/w-cd player-c/c-satnav-heated front seats-multi fuel steering wheel-elec sunroof-6 speed-15000 miles from new and full service history. **£16995**

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Citrus met-black leather interior-aircon-ltd ed alloys-abs-air bag-upgraded stereo system-alarm & immobiliser-e/w-rarely available in ltd ed colour-service history **£5495**

2006/06 VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6 CLUB 5 DOOR HATCHBACK

Panacotter silver met-dark grey cloth-aircon-abs-multi air bags-cd player-multi function steering wheel-alarm and immobiliser-e/w-f/s/h and only one owner from new offered at only **£4995**

2007/07 PLATE VAUXHALL ASTRA EST LIFE 1.3CDTI DIESEL

in pacific blue metallic with contrasting black cloth interior-air conditioning-multi air bag protection system-remote control central locking-c/d in-car entertainment system-electric windowsat only **£4995**

2002/52 PLATE VOLKSWAGEN GOLF 1.9TDI SE 100BHP 5 DOOR

in forest green metallic with contrasting black cloth interior-electric windows-remote control central locking-air conditioning-alloy wheels-onboard computer-c/d in-car entertainment system- **£4495**

2006/56 PLATE SEAT LEON 1.6TDI STYLANCE 5 DOOR HATCH

Sunset red-black cloth interior-aircon-rear parking sensors-e/w-c/d system-alloys-multi air bags-front fogs. Very well looked after,fun to drive with great fuel economy and a full service history. **£6995**

2006/06 PLATE FORD FOCUS 1.6 LX 5 DOOR

in flint grey metallic with contrasting black cloth interior-air conditioning-remote control central locking-electric windows-multi air bag protection system-drivers seat height adjustment-c/d at only **£4995**

2000 VAUXHALL ZAFIRA COM-FORT 1.6 16V 7 SEATER

Silver met-dark grey cloth interior-aircon-e/w-stow and go rear 7 seats-cd player-e/w-electric wing mirrors-roof rails-ably full colour coded-an excellent value 7 seater offered at only. **£2995**

2001/51 PLATE RENAULT ESPACE THE RACE 7 SEATER.

Stardust met silver-black cloth-alloys-aircon-remote control stereo-e/w-front fogs-this 7 seater has lots and lots of extras and with only 62k miles from new shows really good value for money. **£3995**

2007/07 RENAULT SCENIC 1.6 AUTOMATIC VVTI DYNAMIQUE 28K FSH

Sandringham met-dark grey charcoal interior-aircon-twin glass sunroofs-alloys-cd player-e/w-new car start system-alarm & immobiliser-c/c-front fogs-auto wiper system-1 owner from **£6495**

2004/54 PLATE VOLKSWAGEN BEETLE TDI DIESEL 3 DOOR

Stardust met silver-black cloth interior-aircon-heated front seats-front fogs-e/w-rear parking sensors-c/d player-multi air bags-this is car offers great fuel economy and a real pleasure to drive. **£6495**

2004/54 RENAULT GRAND ESPACE AUTOMATIC DIESEL INITIAL 7 SEATER

Nightfire blue met-sand leather/suede-aircon-satnav-cd player-abs-air bags-card start-c/c-alarm & immob-auto wipers-auto lights-abs-auto t/c-e/w-only 63k miles-t/s/h. **£8995**

2003/53 RENAULT ESPACE 2.2 DIESEL INITIAL 7 SEATER

Majenta red met-sand leather/suede-aircon-satnav-panoramic sunroof-stereo-abs-air bags-card start-alarm & immob-abs-auto t/c--the highest spec you can get-t/s/h- **£5995**

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W REG HONDA ACCORD 2.0 VTEC SE 5 DOOR-GREEN METALLIC-A/C-E/SROOF-E/WINDOWS-STEREO-CD-PAS.....£1495

T REG CITROEN XANTIA 2.0 AUTO ESTATE-MET BLUE-FULL BLACK LEATHER INTERIOR-AIR CON-ELECTRIC.....£1295

1996 PEUGEOT 106 XND 1.5 DIESEL-GREEN-5 DOOR-NEW MOT-TAXED.....£495

1996 ESCORT CABARET 1.6 5 DOOR-RED-POWER STEERING-STEREO-ELECTRIC WINDOWS-C/LOCKING.....£495

N REG FORD MONDO L 1.8 ESTATE-BLUE-power steering-e/w-stereo-central locking-sunroof-mot and taxed.....£495

2000/X PLATE VW GOLF 1.6 SE 5 DOOR IN RACING GREEN METALLIC-air con-E/W-C/L taxed and mot.....£1995

1997 MITSUBISHI SHOGUN 2.8 TD DIESEL AUTO-RED METALLIC OVER SILVER-CLOTH TRIMS-ELEC SUNROOF.....£1995

2001 DAEWOO MATIZ SE+ in brilliant orange metallic-pas-e/w-stereo/cd-alloy wheels- mot and taxed.....£1495

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PROPERTY NEWS

Older homeowners facing big repair bills

MORE than a third of Britain's homeowners aged over 50 say their homes are in need of repair, but more than one in seven are unable to pay for them.

According to research from Saga Personal Finance, women in particular are suffering, with one in five forced to allow their homes to deteriorate.

In London, 42 per cent of older homeowners need housing repairs.

The poll of more than 14,000 over 50s identified roof, drainage and guttering problems as the main areas of concern.

When asked how they might pay for housing maintenance, half of those questioned planned to use their savings and only a third expected to finance the work from their regular income.

Less than one per cent said they would ask family or a friend for help.

Saga executive chairman, Andrew Goodsell, said: "People are living longer which means that retirement incomes have to stretch a lot further.

"For many, equity release is the ideal solution, but until now the market has not listened to people's needs and providers insist on charging hefty fees."

Repossession fears as budget cuts loom

A LEADING credit rating agency has warned that Government cuts and tax increases could result in a rise in repossessions across the UK housing market.

According to Standard & Poor's, the house price crash did not bring the average cost of a home in line with household incomes, and measures yet to be implemented by the coalition government could test some mortgage borrowers.

In recent years, UK lenders have been exercising forbearance over mortgage arrears, keeping repossessions below estimates, but S&P has noted that Britain has a "high percentage" of sub-prime borrowers in arrears, and suggests that job losses or a jump in interest rates could cause a rise in repossessions.

The firm's report follows a recent warning from the Consumer Credit Counselling Service.

Recently the national charity revealed that it has on its books a number of clients with suspended repossession orders, lenders having not yet enforced orders, despite borrowers failing to meet repayments ordered by the courts.

However, the CCCS suggests that a hardening of attitudes by banks and building societies could lead to a rise in repossessions in 2011.



Detached homes lead way against recession

■ BY NICK AMES

DESPITE the current uncertainty in the market there has been good news recently for one particular set of homeowners

The average price of a detached family home has risen by more than any other property type over the past year.

According to new research from Halifax, owners of detached properties saw the value of their homes increase by £91 a day over the year to the end of June, with a 13 per cent leap taking the average value of a stand-alone property to £299,295.

By comparison, prices for all other property types rose by just eight to nine per cent over the period.

However, going back over the past decade, semi-detached homeowners have been the biggest winners, with the cost of the typical semi surging ahead by 111 per cent since 2000.

For terraced homeowners, growth stood at 110 per cent and for bungalow dwellers, 109 per cent.

Flats were the only property type not to double in value, with an 81 per cent average increase over the last 10 years.

Halifax housing economist, Suren Thiru, comments: "The changing pattern of homes bought over the past decade highlights some significant socio-economic forces.

"For example, the rise in the proportion of sales of flats and terraced homes reflects the increasing trend for people to live alone."

While married households remain the most common form of UK home, single person properties are projected to take the lead by 2020, according to a Communities and Local Government forecast.

The news comes amidst fears that the prices of property across the UK could fall again, after a few months of consolidation.



GOOD INVESTMENT: Detached family homes are increasing in value faster than any other type, say analysts

But analysts say there are very different values and prices across the country, with the worst decline in value in the north and outlying regions.

Kent and London continue to avoid the

worst of the recession, but recent figures suggest they are not immune to the national downturn. However the increasing number of properties on the market is giving buyers a better choice.

Fall in prices 'good news for sales'

SURVEYORS say they are feeling less optimistic about UK house prices, with more respondents to the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors' (RICS) latest survey expecting prices to fall, rather than rise, over the next three months.

However, RICS spokesman, Jeremy Leaf, points out that while prices in many parts of the country may be slipping, sales levels could begin to pick up as a result.

Mr Leaf said: "Looking forward, our price

indicators are telling a mixed story, which is consistent with the uncertainty hanging over the economy, the low level of interest rates and the lack of new house building."

Separately, the Council of Mortgage Lenders (CML) reported that there were only 56,000 house purchase loans approved in July, as loans to first-time buyers declined to 19,400, down from 19,700 in June and from 20,100 in the same period of 2009.

The first-time buyer share of the market fell

to 34 per cent, its lowest level since the credit crisis began in August 2007.

The CML suggests that loan criteria have now "tightened a little", having eased in the early part of the year, with the typical first-time putting down a deposit of 24 per cent in July, up from 21 per cent in April and May.

However, low interest rates mean that for those getting a foot on the property ladder, interest payments are at their most affordable since early 2004.

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This School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people, and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of appointment for post is subject to a satisfactory Criminal Record Bureau Disclosure.

Due to the conditions and complex needs of the pupils at Abbey Court School, continuity and consistency of support is paramount, and therefore candidates for all positions will need to commit to the full working hours of the post.

For an application pack, or to make an appointment to visit, please telephone (stating the role for which you are applying):

Mrs Linda Taylor, Abbey Court School, Rede Court Road, Strood, Kent ME2 3SP (01634 338236)

Please note CV's will not be accepted. Closing date: 8.10.10

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Closing date for applications is Friday 15 October 2010, no agencies.

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The John Townsend Trust

Royal School for Deaf Children Margate
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Community Living Services
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Registered Nurse

Due to expansion and development we now need to recruit a registered nurse to join our friendly team based in Margate.

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All positions are subject to an Enhanced CRB Disclosure check, satisfactory references, proof of qualifications and a fully checkable work history.

Closing date: 9th October 2010

For application packs please contact Human Resources Department

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Or download an application form from our website: www.townsendtrust.org



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Due to the conditions and complex needs of the pupils at Abbey Court School, continuity and consistency of support is paramount and therefore candidates for all positions will need to commit to the full working hours of the post.

This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of appointment for post is subject to a satisfactory Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure.

Closing Date: 15th October 2010

Interviews to be held on 19th October 2010.

**For further details and a job description, please contact
Mrs Linda Taylor, Abbey Court School, Rede Court Road, Strood, Kent, ME2 3SP (01634 338236), stating the position for which you are applying.**

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This College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all our users and expects all staff to share this commitment, in order for all to achieve their full potential. The successful applicant will be required to undertake a Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) check and to provide proof of their right to work in the UK.

To find out more, view our full list of opportunities and apply online, visit www.wkc.ac.uk. Alternatively call 01732 376511 or email hr-dept@wkc.ac.uk. Please quote ref: T7061

Closing date: 12 noon on Thursday 14th October 2010



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Nacro Services in Kent and Medway offers vocational and skills training to young people aged 14-19 years / adult learners and those who wish to improve their literacy and numeracy. Our aim is to motivate raise self-esteem and increase self confidence through effective training and skills development to progress our learners into education, training or employment.

As our provision extends we are looking for lively, self motivated individuals who enjoy the challenge of working with people of all ages but, in particular, young people.

ADMINISTRATOR

Nacro requires a competent and efficient administrator to work within a busy training environment at our Pathways Construction Training Centre in Chatham.

You will have excellent communication skills, be highly motivated and be able to plan and prioritise your workload. You must be qualified or experienced to a minimum of NVQ level 2 (or equivalent) and have a sound knowledge of all major aspects of office administration. Knowledge of office-based IT packages including spreadsheets, databases and word processing programmes is essential. Some book-keeping or finance knowledge and an understanding of HR would also be beneficial.

£17,834.00 p.a (subject to job evaluation)

Closing date is the 15 October with interviews on 19 October.

Contact Colin.farrow@nacro.org.uk or call Colin Farrow on 01634 818305 for an application pack.

Career opportunities at MidKent College

MidKent College based in the Medway Towns and Maidstone is seeking to appoint an outstanding individuals in the following areas:

Lecturer in Electrical Installation Ref: P0357

Salary: £28,463 - £32,251 per annum (dependant on qualifications and experience) Medway

We are looking to recruit an enthusiastic individual to deliver Electrical Installation to learners studying from level 1 to level 3. The successful candidate will contribute to the development, delivery and teaching of Electrical Installation programmes. The ideal candidate must have a current knowledge and practical experience of the Building Services Industry, have sufficient teaching experience and educated to Level 3 or the equivalent in the relevant field. The successful candidate must have; an Advanced Craft Certificate, including Inspection and testing of Installations and possess either a D32/34 or A & V Awards and hold a recognised teaching qualification or be willing to work towards one. Good IT skills and the ability to work within a team are essential.

Lecturer in Child Care Ref: P0070

18.5 hours per week. Fixed term Maternity cover

Lecturer in Child Care and Health and Social Care Ref: P0232

Salary: £24,096 - £28,963 per annum/pro rata (dependent on qualifications and experience) Medway

We are looking for knowledgeable and experienced candidates to deliver CACHE Child Care programmes at various levels. The successful candidates will have the ability to motivate students and be flexible and adaptable in their teaching methods. The applicants must have a relevant vocational/academic qualification and have, or be willing to work towards, a teaching qualification. Recent industry experience would be advantageous.

CLOSING DATE: Friday 15 October 2010

MidKent College is working in partnership with RBLI Employment Solutions to support individuals who have a disability or health condition in the application, interview and employment with the college. If you would like any further information regarding RBLI, or require assistance with your application process then please contact RBLI on 0800 783 1144 or visit their website www.rbli.co.uk for information, advice and guidance.

The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau check in accordance with the College procedure.

Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the HR department on 01634 383102 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number.

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TEAM SUPPORT WORKERS – CHILDCARE
£13,874 plus 10% per annum - 41 hours per week, (including weekends) – Term time only, plus 2 weeks* & £4,994 - 15 hours per week, (weekends only) – Term time only, plus 2 weeks*
As part of the childcare team, these roles involve providing care and support to students from classrooms to childcare teams afternoons and evenings during the week and late or early shifts each weekend.

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LEARNING SUPPORT ASSISTANTS (TEAM SUPPORT WORKERS – EDUCATION)
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The successful applicants will be responsible for assisting teachers in the school.
*For those roles there will also be up to a maximum of two weeks for the school's respite care provision if required, for which extra payment would be paid.
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Please note that CVs will not be considered.
The closing date for all applications is 12 noon Friday 15th October 2010.

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Candidates will possess a proven track record in media sales, combining excellent communication and presentation skills, a great business acumen, tenacity, and the ability to build positive business relationships.

Ultimately, we need an articulate and assured sales person with a structured sales technique, a positive manner and passion for all things sport.

Have you got innovative ideas?

Media Sales Executives

We have an opportunity for highly motivated people to create and sell multi-media solutions in our market-leading portfolio of newspapers and magazines.

We're not looking for people to just take orders; we're looking for people who can provide first class solutions for our customers.

We believe good customer service is at the heart of our success and we want to recruit people who can develop excellent business relationships and present effective and innovative ideas that will provide real value and response for our customers.

About us

KOS Media publishes the UK award-winning Kent on Sunday newspaper and a series of free weekly newspapers, magazines and associated websites and mobile products.

The company produces kentnews.co.uk and yourkentTV, an internet-based TV service providing regional and local news, business and sport, plus websites for jobs, property and motors.

KOS Media's newspapers have won more than 10 national awards, including UK Regional Newspaper of the Year, and UK Free Weekly Newspaper of the Year six times.

In June, 2010, media group Archant purchased KOS Media.

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Archant can trace its roots back more than 160 years and today remains one of the country's largest independent media businesses. As a private company it employs 1,850 people right across England. It has an annual turnover of £142 million.

The newspaper division, Archant Regional, produces four daily regional newspapers and around 60 weekly titles with a combined circulation of 2.25 million copies every week. It is a UK top six regional newspaper publisher. It also publishes many of the group's 180 websites and a number of its magazines.

Archant also owns three magazine companies, which between them produce around 80 magazines.

We offer an excellent basic salary plus generous bonus scheme, ongoing training and career development, five weeks' annual leave, contributory pension and life assurance scheme (after qualifying period) and all the benefits of working for a large media organisation.

To apply send your CV with covering letter to:

Jason Pyne, Development Director
KOS Media, Apple Barn,
Hythe Road, Smeeth, Ashford,
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Career opportunities at MidKent College

MidKent College based in the Medway Towns and Maidstone is seeking to appoint an outstanding individual in the following area:

Lecturer in Hair

Ref: M0496

26 hours per week. Salary: £25,181 - £28,963 pro rata. Fixed Term Maternity Cover. Medway.

We have an exciting opportunity to recruit a passionate individual to teach, assess and contribute to the development of Hair Design programmes. The applicant must have a relevant vocational/academic qualification and should hold, or be willing to work towards, a teaching qualification. Recent industry experience would be advantageous.

Closing date: Friday 8 October 2010

CLOSING DATE: Friday 8 October 2010

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Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the HR department on 01634 383102 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number.

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STRONG: Canterbury (in black) eased past Hinckley

Canterbury back on song with win and bonus

Canterbury 29 Hinckley 12

FOLLOWING two successive chastening defeats Canterbury rediscovered some of their form with a bonus point victory against Hinckley.

The margin of victory looked set to be more emphatic as the hosts ran in their fourth try early in the second half, but with the result in the bag Canterbury eased off and allowed Hinckley back into the game.

On paper the winless Leicestershire side were perfect opposition for Danny Vaughan's side to rebuild their confidence

RUGBY

after conceding 78 points in defeats to Jersey and Old Albanians.

The hosts still looked to be suffering from a collective hangover in the first 20 minutes on Saturday, with numerous handling errors hindering their progress. A Tom Best penalty was cancelled out by a try from the visitors, which finally provoked a response.

From the restart Canterbury seized on an error and after Wim Baars made the initial

breakthrough the ball was shipped out for Gert De Kock to score. Suddenly transformed, the city club scored a second try within three minutes through Mike Melford.

Both tries were converted by Best to put the home side 17-5 ahead. They came up with the move of the match to score a third try just after the interval, when Best's crisp pass allowed Melford to burst through.

Ben Massey scored his first points for Canterbury with their fourth score, but the final 30 minutes saw Hinckley claim the consolation of a converted try.

Canterbury visit Shelford on Saturday.

HOCKEY

Hall at double as city ladies shine

JENNY Hall scored twice as Canterbury ladies won convincingly at Clifton ladies to leap up to third in the embryonic Premier Division table.

The England under-21 international's first goal separated the sides at half-time, but Clifton levelled ten minutes into the second half.

Hall restored Canterbury's advantage just before the hour mark and late goals from Kirsty Chambers and Hayley Brown ensured Nick Clark's side took all three points. With two wins from three games the side lie third ahead of Saturday's home game against early leaders University of Birmingham ladies.

The club's men had a mixed weekend, first losing 4-0 at home to East Grinstead in the league on Saturday. Kwan Browne's men got off to a nightmare start as they went 3-0 down inside 16 minutes en route to their first defeat of the season.

They recovered to win 4-1 at Bromley and Beckenham in the National Cup on Sunday, booking a place in round three. This weekend they will attempt to become the first team to take points off Premier Division leaders Beeston.



BRACE: Jenny Hall

FOOTBALL

Live and kicking playing the field

KENT Football Live returns this weekend and is your chance to follow your side's progress as the season really begins to heat up.

Featured games this weekend are Gillingham v Stockport County and Canvey Island v Dartford.

But don't worry, if you're not a fan of these Kent sides, we'll still bring you goals from games involving our sides, as well as half-time and full-time scores.

We'll also bring you results from the Kent League after full-time.

All you have to do is log on to www.kentsport.co.uk from 2pm onwards and watch the afternoon's action unfold.

PLEASE SEND YOUR SPORTS STORIES TO SPORTS EDITOR GLENN PEARSON AT glenn.pearson@kosmedia.co.uk



KEY PLAYERS: Rob Key is confident the likes of overseas batsman Martin van Jaarsveld (inset) can be convinced to stay at Kent during the winter months, despite concerns over the club's finances

Key confident Kent will keep hold of big hitters

CRICKET

■ BY GLENN PEARSON

KENT skipper Rob Key is hoping he can spend the winter planning for next season with James Tredwell, Darren Stevens and Martin van Jaarsveld all in his squad.

All three expressed their concern at the news the club were in no financial position to keep hold of fast bowler Amjad Khan, leading to a turbulent end of season at St Lawrence.

While their immediate futures are yet to be confirmed, Key, who has been retained as club captain, is hopeful the trio will stay, but did say he is yet to hear from them since the end of season meeting a fortnight ago.

Asked whether he was confident the trio would stay, Key said: "I don't know, I haven't

heard anything that these guys are leaving at the moment, so I'm pretty confident. It's been an interesting last couple of months to say the least, but I think most people are happy with the way the club is shaping up in the next couple of years.

"The club did very well [in the meeting] – it's sort of silly really because we are all involved in the club, but when you are away you hear rumours that fly around in the media and you end up questioning it yourself. The club were able to be pretty honest and give a good account of where we're at and where we're going."

While several members of the squad will

spend the winter playing cricket abroad, Key is expecting to do some television work for Sky during the close season as well as preparing for his benefit year in 2011.

The 31-year-old says his reappointment means both he and head coach Paul Farbrace can spend the winter planning for next season, although the opener admits that there will not be a great deal of manoeuvre in a 15-man squad.

"There are still overseas questions and overall I don't think we have a great deal of wriggle room, but if we can strengthen somehow then that would be a massive bonus," he said. "What it's going to take is a couple of guys to really come through and we also have Robbie Joseph to come back and he, for my money, is one of the best bowlers around. If he's fit then yes we can be competitive."

Halsey delighted after Bay Book safe passage

FOOTBALL

BY DAVID PRITCHARD

Bookham 0

Herne Bay 4

Corbett 16, King 40 & 44 pen, D Lawrence 63

HERNE Bay manager Simon Halsey was full of praise for his side as they overcame tricky conditions to make serene progress in the FA Vase.

The visitors were out of sight by half-time thanks to Jimmy Corbett's opener and two goals from the in-form Stuart King. Danny Lawrence added a fourth goal after the break to give Bay a comfortable victory as they kept a first clean sheet of the season.

Halsey was happy with the way his players handled a difficult pitch, but was most pleased about their ability to execute a change in formation which left Bookham bamboozled.

He said: "I'd imagine some of the supporters thought I was off my rocker to start with Rhys Lawson at left-back, but we always planned to change from 4-4-2 to 3-5-2 after eight minutes. It pushed Jimmy Corbett in behind the front two and they couldn't get near him. As he's got fitter game by game he's now running games."



Picture: LOOR MURDO

FINALE: Danny Lawrence added a flourish to the scoreline as Herne Bay cruised through in the FA Vase on Saturday

"It's a massive plus to know we can change formation during games and some teams won't be able to cope with that."

Corbett, who spent time at Blackburn Rovers earlier in his career, has taken time to make his mark but after gaining full fitness is now a key part of Bay's armoury. He opened the scoring on 16 minutes with his first goal

Herne Bay starting XI



for the club, tapping home after Lawrence's cross was spilled by the goalkeeper.

The tie was effectively won with two goals in four minutes just before half-time. King scored both, first doubling the lead with an improvised finish on 40 minutes. A long ball from Steve Northwood saw the bay striker go in for a challenge with two defenders and the goalkeeper, capitalising on indecision to slide the loose ball home.

King made it 13 goals for an already prolific season from the penalty spot after Michael Jenner was brought down.

Bookham hit the bar with the last kick of the half, but Bay took a 3-0 lead into the changing rooms.

The visitors had chances to run riot after the break, but only added one more to their tally when Lawrence steered a shot home on 63 minutes.

Bay return to league action this weekend when they host Greenwich Borough.

Monday's draw gave Halsey's side a home tie against Camberley Town in the second round. The tie is scheduled to be played on Saturday, November 13.

FOOTBALL

City show no charity as Smissen hits three

Canterbury City 5 Kennington 2

BUSTER Smissen bagged a hat-trick as Canterbury City's Weald of Kent Charity Cup tie with Kennington went to form on Saturday.

The former Faversham and Hythe striker was the difference between the sides as City made light work of their opponents, who play a division below Paul Murray's side.

The hosts' starting line-up included a welcome return for Rob Gutsell in midfield and a debut for Bulgarian goalkeeper Peter Alexandrov.

City took the lead inside two minutes. A Bobby Hitchcock free kick was swung into the danger zone and Smissen was on hand to bundle the ball home.

The striker then turned provider for the second goal, playing in Liam Tuite to drive home from 15 yards.

Alexandrov was kept busy, but the tie was virtually put beyond doubt when Smissen made it 3-0 on 35 minutes.

Kennington emerged after the break with renewed purpose and pulled a goal back on the hour. However, any chance of a comeback was immediately extinguished, as Tuite returned the favour by setting up Smissen to complete his first hat-trick for the club.

To their credit the visitors kept going and scored a second goal six minutes from time.

The scoring was completed when Sam Baker fired home for the hosts in the last minute.

City return to league action on Saturday when they host Stansfeld O&B Club.



Picture: DAVID MULLANEY

MARKSMAN: Buster Smissen

LEAGUE TABLE

(Not including midweek games)

RYMAN DIVISION ONE SOUTH

	P	W	D	L	Gd	Pt
1 Metropolitan Police	8	8	0	0	+24	24
2 Leatherhead	10	7	2	1	+11	23
3 Bognor Regis Town	8	5	2	1	+8	17
4 Dulwich Hamlet	9	5	1	3	+5	16
5 Godalming Town	9	4	3	1	+5	15
6 Sittingbourne	9	4	3	2	+5	15
7 Burgess Hill Town	8	4	3	1	+1	15
8 Walton Casuals	9	4	1	4	+1	13
9 Eastbourne Town	9	3	4	2	-2	13
10 Whitehawk	8	3	3	2	+8	12
11 Chatham Town	9	4	0	5	-5	12
12 Faversham Town	9	3	2	4	-2	11
13 Merstham	10	2	5	3	-3	11
14 Worthing	8	2	3	3	+3	9
15 Chipstead	7	2	3	2	-1	9
16 Whitstable Town	8	2	2	4	-3	8
17 Ramsgate	9	2	2	5	-4	8
18 Whyteleafe	8	2	2	4	-7	8
19 Fleet Town	7	2	1	4	-6	7
20 Horsham YMCA	9	2	1	6	-11	7
21 Walton & Hersham	8	1	1	6	-7	4
22 Corinthian-Casuals	9	0	2	7	-10	2

KENT LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	Gd	Pt
1 Deal Town	8	5	1	2	+3	16
2 VCD Athletic	6	4	2	0	+6	14
3 Beckenham Town	6	4	1	1	+8	13
4 Hythe Town	7	4	1	2	+6	13
5 Herne Bay	8	3	4	1	+4	13
6 Greenwich Borough	5	4	0	1	+5	12
7 Erith Town	6	3	2	1	+5	11
8 Sevenoaks Town	7	3	1	3	-2	10
9 Norton Sports	6	2	3	1	+2	9
10 Corinthian	7	2	1	4	-5	7
11 Fisher	7	2	1	4	-5	7
12 Tunbridge Wells	4	1	2	1	+2	5
13 Holmesdale	9	1	2	6	-9	5
14 Erith & Belvedere	4	1	0	3	-4	3
15 Lordswood	5	0	1	4	-7	1
16 Sporting Bengal United	5	0	0	5	-9	0

KENT COUNTY LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	Gd	Pt
1 Rusthall	8	5	3	0	+11	18
2 Bridon Ropes	8	6	0	2	+9	18
3 Cray Valley (PM)	8	5	2	1	+13	17
4 Hollands & Blair	7	4	3	0	+7	15
5 Stansfeld O&B Club	8	4	1	3	+3	13
6 Bly Spartans	8	3	3	2	+4	12
7 Phoenix Sports	8	3	2	3	+3	11
8 Lewisham Borough	8	3	1	4	+4	10
9 Canterbury City	7	3	0	4	-2	9
10 Sutton Athletic	8	2	1	5	-6	7
11 Charlton Ath. Community	6	2	1	3	-6	7
12 Woodstock Park	7	2	1	4	-9	7
13 Fleet Leisure	7	1	3	3	-5	6
14 Snodland	8	1	3	4	-8	6
15 Bearsted	7	1	3	3	-10	6
16 Tonbridge Invicta	7	1	1	5	-8	4

FIXTURES (Saturday):

RYMAN DIVISION ONE SOUTH: Walton & Hersham v Whitstable Town; KENT LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION: Herne Bay v Greenwich Borough; KENT COUNTY LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION: Canterbury City v Stansfeld O&B Club

Lane bemoans lacklustre Whitstable's Trophy exit

FOOTBALL

Ilford 2 Whitstable Town 0

A MISERABLE performance saw Whitstable Town feebly exit the FA Trophy at the first hurdle to an average Ilford side.

Louis Smith limped off with an injury and Ian Pulman missed a late penalty to compound a forgettable display from the Oystermen.

Town boss Mark Lane apologised to supporters who had made the trip to Cricklefield Stadium and was deeply frustrated four days after watching his side beat Sittingbourne.

He said: "I think normally you can get away with one or two players to be off colour, but we had ten."

"It just wasn't acceptable; after the highs of the previous game we didn't turn up."

"I was embarrassed, it's the worst performance I have seen from a Whitstable team in all my time at the club."

The teams shared a poor first-half devoid of quality, with the only noteworthy incident coming with a recurrence of Smith's hamstring problem. The defender is likely to be out for at least three weeks.

Dan Wisker hit the post early in the second half, before Ilford opened the scoring on 50 minutes.

Pulman and Dave Cory were introduced to give Whitstable some firepower, but the pair made little impact and Ilford sealed victory with a second goal ten minutes from time.

Pulman missed a late spot kick to round off a bad day at the office.



Picture: PER LAING

DISAPPOINTED: Town boss Mark Lane apologised to Whitstable supporters for his side awful display

Lane is hoping to sign a midfielder from Margate this week ahead of Saturday's trip to Walton & Hersham.

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K.O. 3pm



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ON TARGET: CBeebies star Sid Sloane will don his tights for the lead role of Robin

CBeebies Sid's a real hotshot

HE may be the coolest presenter on TV, but Sid Sloane is proving hot property.

The energetic host of the BBC TV children's channel CBeebies will play Robin Hood in this year's show and is already causing quite a stir.

Panto producer Paul Hendy and his promotions team have been out and about at various events across Kent over the last few months – and Sid has been the main talking point.

Paul said: "Sid is one of the most popular presenters on TV and we are really lucky to have him.

"My five-year-old son loves him – and it seems lots of other children (and their mums) do, too."

Sid, who describes himself as "positive, spiritually-minded and ambitious", is tall, loves football and is deadly on the dance-floor.

He reveals more in this exclusive KOS Media question-and-answer session:

• MOST EXCITING THING ABOUT BEING IN PANTO: It will be great to be on stage, working hard and sharing the good vibes with the audience and

cast, but also very exciting to work with a fabulous production company on a panto that I've never seen performed before.

• INTERESTING FACT ABOUT YOUR BIRTH YEAR: The last two digits of the year backwards are the single digits which make up the day and the month.

• NEAREST AND DEAREST: Mum, dad, three brothers, one sister, my son, my fiancée, my nephews and my niece, my gran and my cousins all over the world.

• OCCUPATION: Actor/writer/presenter.

• BEST PART OF YOUR JOB: The people I work with and get to work with all the time. They really care.

• FAVOURITE CBEBBIES MOMENTS: Filming in Africa: Kenya in 2008, and South Africa back in May this year.

In South Africa we were at a game reserve and in Kenya we went all around the Masai Mara.

Seeing the elephants and giraffes was the most magical, but there was one moment when I was recording a link from the Range Rover with the elephants crossing in front of me and the camera

at a safe distance in another vehicle behind when suddenly one elephant turned and gave me the look of all looks as if to say "Get any closer and you can kiss goodbye to your friends".

• DREADLOCKS, FRIEND OR FOE?

Good one! Friend – in the way that your best friends can be the most annoying, but that's one reason you love them, because you know they'll come good in the end. You trust them.

• ONE PIECE OF ADVICE TO THE 16-YEAR-OLD YOU: Focus.

• HAVE YOU EVER BEEN TO NOTTINGHAM? Yes, I performed at the Playhouse there in a touring production of The Twits for the Belgrade Theatre Company nine years ago – I stayed in an area called The Park and had a great time.

I didn't buy any lace, but I did watch Liverpool win the UEFA Cup to complete a cup treble in a pub very near the theatre. And I once got turned off the motorway due to snow on the way up to Sheffield, and we ended up in Nottingham for several hours.

Your chance to own the famous ghost gag bench

ITS ACTING may be the most wooden you're likely to see, but over the last 15 years the ghost gag bench has developed something of a cult status.

The bench has become one of the most highly-anticipated points of the panto: on it comes and you just know what's going to follow.

Unfortunately, it is going into retirement... but fear not – as Dave Lee would say – it's going to be replaced and a new one will get to see its relatives in Sherwood Forest.

However, rather than put the old version on the bonfire, one KOS Media reader can win it.

Dave is the man (or woman) most associated with the bench and is sorry to see the original one go.

He said: "From the very first time I sat on it, I knew it was something very special. Most of the leading ladies have asked to sit on the bench in the wings – apparently it gives eternal youth and stops your feet aching after three shows on a Saturday.

"These lovely leading ladies include Martine McCutcheon, Toyah Willcox, Daniella Westbrook, Shelia Ferguson, Emma Barton, Barbara Sturgeon and many, many more splendid bottoms, plus a thousand and one dancers.

"Many a man has had to endure the most frightening experience of a lifetime, sitting in the dark with 2,000 gleaming eyes watching and waiting for ghostly figures to appear; only to hear a frightening scream cause one of these brave characters to run off into the wings and back to their dressing room.

"Once they reach the safety of the room all they can hear is the tribal chanting of 'Well, we'll have to sing it again then, won't we, whoooooops!'"

Dave added: "Some of the male thespians who have braved the magical seat of danger are Brian Blessed, Peter Duncan, Shaun Williamson, Dave Willets, Lewis Collins, Tim Vincent, Colin Baker and Stephen Mulhern.

"Actors have travelled from the other side of the world for the honour to sit on that piece of English timber.

"From Ramsay Street, Daniel McPherson, Ryan Moloney and Blair McDonough have all contacted me to say this experience has changed their lives forever – and, may I say, mine as well."

• For your chance to win the bench, simply answer the following question:

• For 15 years, Dave has sung the same song during the ghost gag routine. What is the name of the song?

As well as the bench, the winner will receive four tickets to the 7pm performance of Robin Hood on Wednesday, December 8.

Send your entry to: Sarah Munday, Marlowe Theatre, C/O VIC, 12-13 Sun Street, Canterbury CT1 2HX. Please include your name and a daytime phone number.

The closing date for the competition is Friday, October 29.

BENCHMARK: Nurse Nellie (aka Dave Lee) and Phil Holden on the bench you could win



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